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The Spectator
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CHURCHILL INVITATION ATTRACTS NATIONAL ATTENTION, SPARKS DEBATE

Panel cancelled due to violent threats

by Ian Mandel '06
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

College President Joan Hinde Stewart cancelled Thursday's panel discussion featuring controversial speaker Ward Churchill on Tuesday morning, citing "credible threats of violence" directed at the College and members of the panel.

In an interview Wednesday afternoon, Stewart stated, "we were told by Ward Churchill's wife that he had received over 100 death threats since the publicity of his visit to the College began."

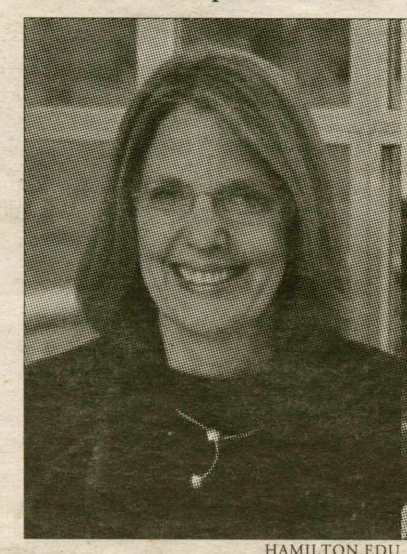
Additionally, the College itself received numerous threats, including a telephone call made to the Campus Safety switchboard Tuesday morning in which an individual announced a "promise" to bring a gun to the panel.

"That was an important factor," Stewart said, "as was the news we got from Ward Churchill's wife that he was going to be wearing a flack vest."

According to Stewart, Churchill planned on following through with his visit to Hamilton despite the death threats, although he planned to be accompanied by two bodyguards and wear a bullet-proof vest. He requested that his placement on the stage be separate from other panelists so that nobody else would be injured if he were attacked.

Shortly after the threatening phone call was received by Campus Safety, Stewart made the decision to cancel the panel.

*see **Churchill**, page 2*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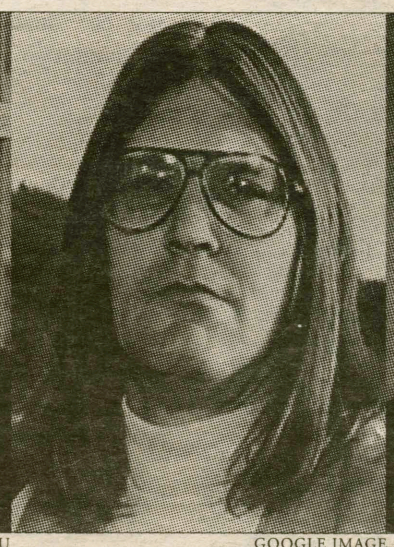
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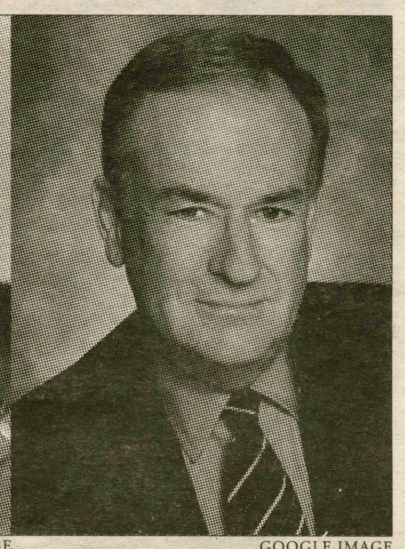
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Hamilton College President Joan Hinde Stewart, Ward Churchill, Bill O'Reilly.

"As a president charged with the safety and security of a college, I simply cannot allow that," Stewart stated. "We reached a point where the threat to the community and the students entrusted to my care was too great and we were unable to ensure their safety."

Stewart's decision was announced in an e-mail to students in which she wrote, "We have done our best to protect what we hold most dear, the right to speak, think and study freely. But there is a higher responsibility that this insti

*see **Churchill**, page 2*

National media focuses on Hamilton

by Ian Mandel '06
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Hamilton College's now-cancelled panel "Limits of Dissent," featuring controversial speaker Ward Churchill, has drawn significant media attention over the last week, sparking a nationwide debate about the merits of the University of Colorado professor's visit.

National television, radio and print media outlets have been covering the controversy, including The New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, CNN, FOX News and the Associated Press.

FOX News personality Bill O'Reilly dedicated several segments of his popular show, "The O'Reilly Factor," to discussing the controversial speaking engagement.

On Friday, January 28, James S. Sherman Associate Professor of

*see **Media**, page 6*

Hill mourns loss of Prof. Wertimer

by Katie Childs '08
SPORTS EDITOR

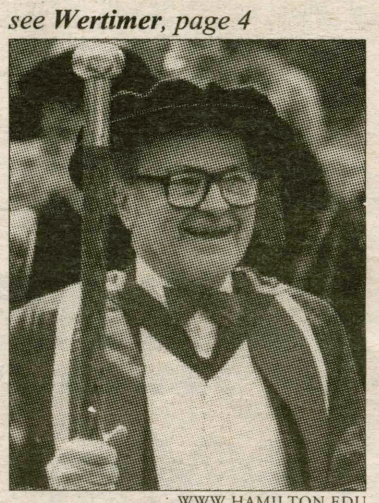
Sidney Wertimer Jr., professor emeritus of economics, will be remembered as a dedicated husband, father to four children, friend, educator, mentor, volunteer, and inspirational figure in Hamilton College's history. He passed away on Monday morning, February 1, in Charleston, South Carolina.

"Until [Sidney Wertimer] retired from full time teaching he had an office next to mine and every week he would post up a sign up sheet for appointments," remembered Associate Professor of Economics Jeff Pliskin. "From 9:00 to 4:30 he blocked out times he was teaching, time for lunch, and essentially the rest of the day was available for students to sign up for meetings. Essentially he made himself available from 9:00 to 4:30. He spent much of his time talking to students, not about course material, but about possible careers and possible people to contact."

Wertimer attended the University of Pennsylvania and served in the U.S. Navy before earning degrees from the University of Buffalo and London School of Economics. Wertimer came to Hamilton College in 1952, when he and his wife, Ellie, made their home in Clinton and became integral parts of the community. "Sidney and Ellie personify everything that's great about this campus community," said President Joan Hinde Stewart.

Wertimer served as an Associate Dean, Chairman of the Economics Department, Provost, and College Marshall during his fifty-two year tenure at Hamilton College. In addition, he sat on numer

*see **Wertimer**, page 4*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Prof. Wertimer served Hamilton for 52 years.

Feldt lectures on "War on Choice"

by Kathleen McGrory '05
SENIOR EDITOR

Despite her recent resignation as president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Gloria Feldt is continuing to fight for reproductive rights. She encouraged Hamilton students to do the same this past Wednesday in her first speaking engagement since stepping down.

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Feldt served as the president of Planned Parenthood for nine years.

A crowd of students, faculty and community members packed the Chapel to hear Feldt's lecture "Stop the War on Choice: How to Fight Forward for Reproductive Rights." The talk was the second in series on abortion sponsored by the Levitt Center.

Heavier-than-usual security characterized the evening. Director of Campus Safety Patricia Ingalls said that the additional security was requested by both Feldt's staff and Hamilton coor

*see **Feldt**, page 4*

Students organize discussion panel

by Jonathan Kuhl '06
MANAGING EDITOR

Students gathered on Thursday, February 3, filling the Red Pit to capacity, to participate in a campus-wide discussion titled "Student Forum on the Future of Intellectual Inquiry at Hamilton."

In addition to the many students and faculty at the event, administrators including President Joan Hinde-Stewart, Vice President of Communications and Development Richard Tantillo, Dean of the Faculty David Paris, and Dean of Students Nancy Thompson also attended the discussion.

The discussion was moderated by Professor Todd Franklin of the Philosophy Department and student Becca Parkhurst '07. While the moderators did not join in the discussion, they presented the group with questions related to free speech and academic freedom in order to keep the conversation lively and focused.

*see **Discussion**, page 2*

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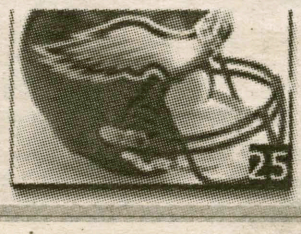

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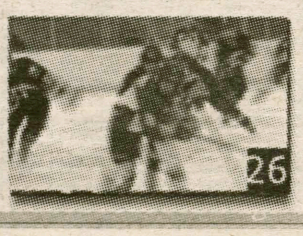

Stewart, College uphold commitment to free speech

*from **Churchill**, page 1*

tution carries, and that is the safety and security of our students, faculty, staff, and the community in which we live."

Stewart reiterated this position at Tuesday afternoon's faculty meeting, where she denounced Ward Churchill's ideas as "deplorable," but defended Hamilton's initial decision to allow Churchill to speak. Once Churchill had been invited to speak at Hamilton and that invitation had been accepted, Stewart told the faculty, canceling the engagement became a matter of free speech.

Throughout the controversy, the College has remained committed to protecting free speech, asserting that Churchill's views, no matter how unpopular, deserve to be heard and evaluated.

Professor of History Maurice Isserman reinforced this idea.

"First, let me say that I think Joan [Stewart] acted prudently, under extreme pressure, and I admire her conduct and leadership throughout this terrible affair. Second, based on his comments about 9/11, I think Ward Churchill is a contemptible jerk. If I had gone to hear him speak, it would only have been to challenge what he had to say in question and answer period. But third, I think the way things wound up in the Ward Churchill affair, we have established a very dangerous precedent. Disapprove of what an invited speaker is going to say? Don't bother confronting his arguments, and defeating them with better arguments. Just phone in a death threat. Given the prevailing political climate, and the power of institutions like Fox News to stir up mass hysteria, it won't stop with Churchill, and it won't stop with Hamilton College," Isserman said.

Noted First Amendment attorney Henry R. Kaufman '67 expressed similar sentiments.

"When our freedoms are lost, it will not be in such a singularly dramatic event. It will be in a process much like that which transpired at Hamilton College in recent days - slowly, by an accumulation of small, perhaps even unnoticed blows, not in a single stroke of the sword or pen, but in the nibbling away of the flesh of liberty one small bite at a time," he stated.

Stewart stated that the cancellation of the panel was a loss for Hamilton.

"We would have provided the opportunity for thousands of people to challenge the views of one man...

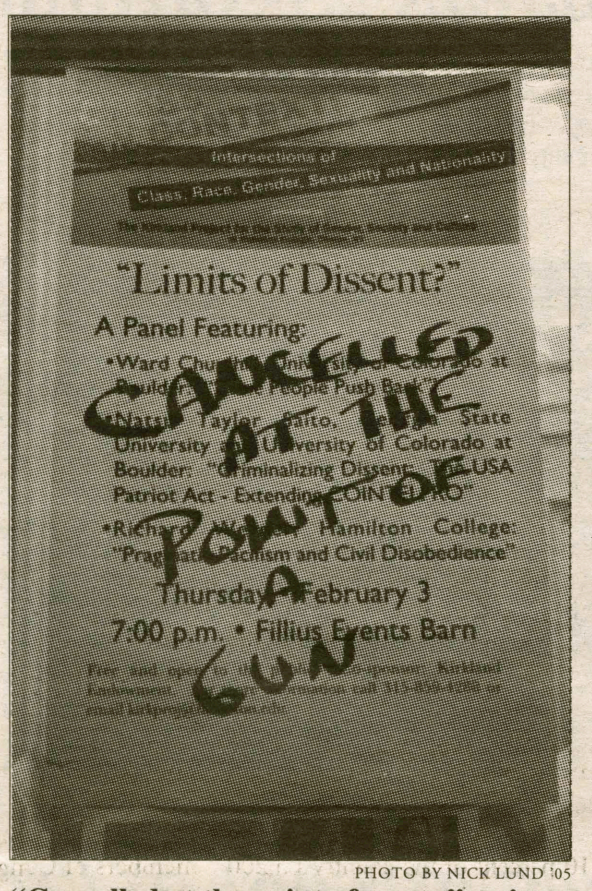
Intersections of
Class, Race, Gender, Sexuality and Nationality
"Limits of Dissent?"
A Panel Featuring:
CANCELLED AT THE POINT OF A GUN
Thursday • February 3
7:00 p.m. • Fillius Events Barn

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

"Cancelled at the point of a gun," written on a poster for the cancelled panel.

and that's not going to happen. So an exercise of free speech is not going to take place," she stated. "The biggest loss to the College is the intellectual loss. There are other effects, but the biggest loss is the ability to engage."

The current controversy coupled with the publicity received by the appointment of Susan Rosenberg to an artist-in-residence position last semester has raised questions about the process of inviting speakers and instructors to campus. Stewart was adamant, however, that such responsibility must remain with the faculty.

"The role of the faculty is to bring speakers to campus who have intellectual stature and who have intellectual value. That responsibility requires the faculty to make those choices," she stated.

Professor of Government Theodore Eismeier, who has been an vocal critic of the decisions to bring both Susan Rosenberg and Ward Churchill to campus, agrees with Stewart.

"I don't think we need to centralize regulation of speakers. Instead, we need to establish trust in existing mechanisms and require of all groups a commitment to balance, not onesidedness, and education, not provocation and propaganda," he stated.

The cancellation of Thursday evening's panel comes after more than a week of intense national media coverage. Fox News's Bill O'Reilly has dedicated several segments of his show, The O'Reilly Factor, to the controversy, and the issue has been covered by the Associated Press, The New York Times and the Wall Street Journal.

Margaret Bundy Scott Professor of Comparative Literature and Director of the Kirkland Project Nancy Rabinowitz, who was responsible for inviting Churchill, had mixed emotions about the cancellation.

"I am really conflicted. On the one hand, I think it would have been terrible if we'd gone forward and violence erupted. That would have been horrific beyond belief," she stated. "One the other hand, I do feel that if you negotiate, you empower those who feel free to threaten violence and therefore you discourage the free exchange of ideas."

Although saddened, Rabinowitz stated that she respected Stewart's decision. "I was not in the room and I've never walked in the shoes of those who have to make these decisions," she said.

Faculty discusses panel cancellation

by Alexandra Sear '05
SENIOR EDITOR

A larger-than-average audience, including many students and members of the news media, descended on the barn this past Tuesday for the first faculty meeting of the semester. The meeting was held just hours after President Stewart announced the cancellation of the Kirkland Project's panel on the "Limits of Dissent."

Stewart reiterated the College's reasons for canceling the panel, which was scheduled for Thursday night and was to feature University of Colorado professor Ward Churchill and his wife Natsu Taylor Saito, as well as James S. Sherman Associate Professor of Government Philip Klinker and John Stewart Kennedy Professor of Government Richard Werner.

The President repeatedly emphasized the "consuming" nature of the controversy, citing the 6,000 emails and hundreds of telephone calls her office has received. Most of the communication has been sharply critical, but she said that some were very much "in favor of the College staying the course." She quoted the faculty handbook's clear statement on the inviolability of free speech, saying that "the test of free speech comes in times like these." While views like Churchill's are "repugnant" to her and "certainly his own," it is "precisely speech that is repugnant that needs protecting."

But when the situation "took an ugly turn," including, she said, "repeated death threats" to both Churchill and his wife, Stewart said the College had no option but to cancel his appearance. In this case, she explained, "safety weighed more heavily than someone's right to speak." She concluded by asking the faculty and assembled company to "focus on what brings us together; to assume the best about each other... and to consider the institutional consequences."

Stewart's remarks received a standing ovation from the majority of the crowd. Discussion of the issue was brief. Professor of Classics Barbara Gold said she was "truly appalled at what has happened here... this is not the Hamilton I came to," adding that it was the "violent tone" of much of the protests that upset her. She implored her colleagues "to get back to the matter of teaching- reasoned, civil, and creative dissent."

Professor of History Maurice Isserman put recent events in historical context. "I don't know of any instance in the past 30 years where a college or university of this stature has withdrawn an invitation to a speaker with a threat of violence," he said. "This is unprecedented in American higher education," adding that he worried that such a precedent "could get really ugly." He ended by commending the students who met with the President at her office hour that afternoon: "I wish a few of the viewers of the O'Reilly factor could have seen them." (In the past week, O'Reilly has repeatedly called Hamilton a "troubled campus" during his nightly show on FoxNews and was vocally opposed to Churchill being allowed on campus; see page 1 for coverage of the

*see **Faculty**, page 6*

student-organized panel draws crowd

*from **Discussion**, page 1*

Among the topics discussed at the event were whether or not Hamilton should have a speech code, members of the faculty who may have intentionally or unintentionally brought media attention to the College, anger at FOX News host Bill O'Reilly, whether or not Hamilton has previously hosted a wide enough variety of speakers, the threats of violence directed at the College, and what actions the Hamilton community should take to fight the negative image currently being projected in the media.

The discussion itself was organized by a group of "interested and concerned students," according to Hilary King '05, who made introductory remarks welcoming the audience to the discussion. Explaining why the students had organized the discussion, King stated that, "we were concerned that there was a lot of thought that wasn't being shared outside of peoples' groups of friends, but should be shared with and wrestled with as a community."

The audience debated various aspects of the Ward Churchill controversy, at times becoming heated in discussing the matter. Many students felt that having the chance to openly express their opinions was exactly what was needed. Commenting on the success of the event, Jess Mariglio '07 stated that: "this was the most exciting event that I've ever been to at Hamilton."

After coming to a consensus that more action was needed, the discussion ended with students exchanging e-mail addresses and making plans to meet again. The College has organized an additional panel discussion centering on the Ward Churchill controversy that will take place on Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. in the Fillius Events Barn.

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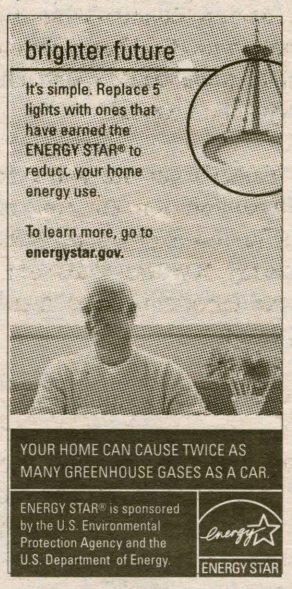
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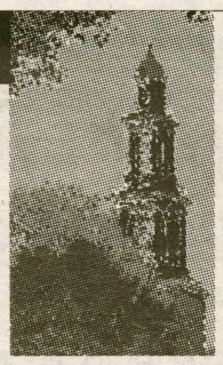
IVORY TOWERS



THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled by Jon Kuhl '06

Lawmakers Denounce Professor's 9/11 Remark

DENVER (AP) -- Colorado lawmakers Wednesday unanimously condemned remarks by a University of Colorado professor who likened the victims of the World Trade Center attacks to Nazis, and Gov. Bill Owens called for his firing.

The Colorado House approved a nonbinding resolution saying Ward Churchill's remarks struck "an evil and inflammatory blow against America's healing process."

The university's Board of Regents planned to meet Thursday to discuss Churchill, who resigned this week as chairman of the ethnic studies department but remains a tenured professor.

The governor has said taxpayers should not have to subsidize "outrageous and insupportable" views that run counter to the facts.

The faculty at the Boulder campus has called Churchill's comments "controversial, offensive, and odious," but expressed support for his right to express them.

In an essay written in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Churchill said the World Trade Center victims were "little Eichmanns." Churchill also spoke of the "gallant sacrifices" of the "combat teams" that struck America.

The essay and a follow-up book attracted little attention until he was invited to speak this week at Hamilton College in New York. Citing death threats, the school Tuesday canceled the discussion.

Churchill has said in a statement that he was not defending the attacks, "but simply pointing out that if U.S. foreign policy results in massive death and destruction abroad, we cannot feign innocence when some of that destruction is returned.

He did not immediately return a call Wednesday.

It's True: Guys Join the Knitting Craze

CHICAGO (AP) -- Eric Garcia and Matthew Kane are holed up in a classroom corner, chatting casually as they each knit a sock for a school project. They ponder the thought that their actions might be a little, well, unexpected.

"Girls can be truckers," says 11-year-old Eric.

"Yeah, girls can be truckers," echoes Matthew, who's also 11 and a fellow fifth-grader at Chicago's Waldorf School. "So why can't guys be knitters?"

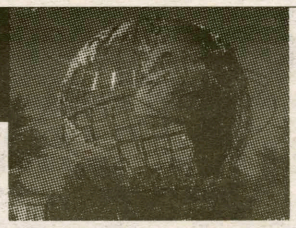
Fact is, a lot of guys are taking up knitting, especially as the hobby surges in popularity on college campuses, in coffee shops and at the many yarn stores that are sprouting up in cities across the country.

At The Wool Tree in South Lake Tahoe, Calif., co-owner Robert Lincoln says he and his wife, Bonnie, have seen more young men coming into the store to buy knitting and crocheting supplies. Many of them are snowboarders who want to make their own winter gear - as a fashion statement or to save money to buy ski passes.

"It's a little bit of a phenomenon," Robert Lincoln says.

Mary-Ann Parisi says she's also had more men shopping at her store, the Knitters Niche on Chicago's North Side. She figures that as many as one in five customers are male.says. "They claim it relaxes them."

WORLD NEWS



Compiled by Jon Kuhl '06

Strong Lead by Shiite Clergy in Iraq Vote

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) -- Iraqi officials Thursday released the first partial returns from national elections, showing a commanding lead by candidates backed by the Shiite Muslim clergy. Sunni insurgents unleashed a wave of attacks, killing at least 29 people, including two U.S. Marines and a dozen Iraqi army recruits.

Meanwhile, election officials said strict security measures may have deprived many Iraqis in the Mosul area and surrounding Ninevah province of their right to vote. The admission is likely to fuel complaints by Iraq's minority Sunni Arabs, who make up the heart of the insurgency, that they were not represented in the vote.

The results released by the election commission four days after Sunday's balloting came from Baghdad and five provinces in the southern Shiite heartland.

As expected, they showed that the United Iraqi Alliance, backed by Iranian-born Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, was leading - with 1.1 million votes out of the 1.6 million counted and certified so far. Some 14 million Iraqis were eligible to vote.

The ticket headed by interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, a U.S.-backed secular Shiite, trailed second with more than 360,500 votes.

But the returns - from 10 percent of the country's 5,200 polling centers - were too small to indicate a national trend.

Shiites make up an estimated 60 percent of Iraq's 26 million people, and the al-Sistani-backed ticket had been expected to roll up such huge margins in the south that the other 110 candidate lists would have to struggle for votes in the rest of the country.

Shiites turned out in huge numbers in cities such as Basra, Nasiriyah, Karbala and Najaf, urged on by clerics who said voting was a religious duty.

However, many Sunni Arabs apparently stayed home, either out of fear of insurgent attacks or in response to boycott calls from their own clerics.

Election officials have said full official results and determine turnout might not be ready until Tuesday.

Pope's Breathing Improves at Hospital

VATICAN CITY (AP) -- Pope John Paul II's condition is improving and he has not suffered any more breathing spasms, the Vatican said, but the 84-year-old pontiff may have to spend up to a week in the hospital to fully recover.

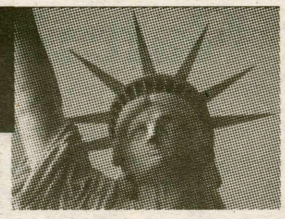
In a sign that the pope's health had stabilized, papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said the Vatican would not issue another medical bulletin until Friday. The Holy See has said the pope would spend a few more days at the Gemelli Polyclinic hospital.

"The Holy Father's general and respiratory conditions show a positive evolution. The pope has rested well" with no repeat of the breathing spasms that sent him to the hospital Tuesday, Navarro-Valls said. "He rested well all night, and the laboratory tests that were made give a satisfactory result."

John Paul was running a slight fever, he said.

Navarro-Valls did not say exactly how long the pope would remain hospitalized, but he told reporters: "In my personal experience, when I've had the flu, it lasts seven days or a week - take your pick."

NATIONAL NEWS



Compiled by Jon Kuhl '06

Bush Starts to Sell Social Security Plan

WASHINGTON (AP) -- President Bush challenged a wary Congress on Thursday to "put partisanship aside and focus on saving Social Security," promoting his idea that would combine reduced government benefits for younger workers with the prospect of higher retirement checks from personal investment accounts.

Bush, in a speech in Fargo, N.D., noted that that Democrats grumbled and groaned at his assertion that Social Security will require higher taxes, big benefit cuts or massive borrowing unless something is done to fix its finances.

"Some of them didn't see the problem," the president said at the first stop on a two-day, five-state trip to sell his program. Each state he visits is represented in the Senate by at least one Democrat the administration hopes to sway on Social Security.

"I expect people in Congress, when they see a problem, to then come up with solutions," Bush said.

"In other words, we're not going to play politics with the issue," he promised. "We're going to say, `If you've got a good idea, come forth with your idea.' Because now is the time to put partisanship aside and focus on saving Social Security for young workers."

Bush was accompanied on Air Force One by several members of Congress, including Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D. The president spent much of the flight talking with the lawmakers.

"He's saying we've got to take more money out of Social Security to start private accounts and borrow the money," said Conrad, a target of Bush's travels. "I just think it's very unwise."

Other Democrats said Bush's program could reduce guaranteed government benefits for younger Americans by 40 percent, while swelling the national debt by close to $2 trillion over a decade.

Democrat Race Narrows to Dean, 3 Others

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Former Texas Rep. Martin Frost dropped out of the race for Democratic national chairman on Tuesday after failing to win the backing of organized labor, winnowing the field to front-runner Howard Dean and three challengers.

Frost's decision came hours after AFL-CIO leaders decided not to make an endorsement in the race for Democratic National Committee chairman.

Frost had counted heavily on organized labor to give him a boost against Dean. Many in the AFL-CIO were prepared to back Frost at one point, but he had not shown enough movement in the race to win labor support, union officials said.

The former congressman said Tuesday he had called Dean, the former presidential candidate, and "congratulated him for running a strong campaign. The challenge ahead for Governor Dean will be to unite the party, rebuild the DNC and win elections in every region of the country."

Frost aides said the Texan did not endorse a candidate in the race. Earlier in the day, David Leland, former chairman of the Ohio Democratic Party, dropped out and endorsed Dean.

"I want to thank Congressman Martin Frost and Chairman David Leland for lending their ideas and vision to this race," Dean said. "While I am encouraged by the news of the day, this race is still not over."

Hamilton remembers Wertimer

*from **Wertimer**, page 1*

ous committees helping to shape Hamilton's policies and planning for the future. Wertimer was also an accomplished author: he co-authored the textbook *Economics and Man*, which is still used in classrooms today.

"What truly was his connection between Wertimer and his students wasn't what he did in his classroom," explained Pliskin. "It was advice about becoming an adult. It wasn't as much a connection as a teacher of economics but as an advisor and mentor; it went way beyond academic skills."

Wertimer left a lasting impression on all who met him. Matt Kahn '89 entered Hamilton in the fall of 1984 without knowing his major and enrolled in Wertimer's Introductory Economics course. "His enthusiasm and his amazing ability to learn all of our names meant a lot to me," recalled Kahn.

"He advised me throughout my Hamilton years and helped me get into the London School of Economics for my junior year." Kahn is now an Associate Professor of Economics at the Fletcher School at Tufts University. Wertimer's influence is still present in Kahn's everyday life: "Now that I've been a Professor for 12 years, I more fully appreciate Sidney's commitment to undergraduate education. In my own lectures, I try to emulate him and his teaching style. I will greatly miss him. He was both a great man and quite a character."

Wertimer left a lasting memory in the minds of his students and when he retired in 1991 they honored his excellence in teaching by endowing a chair in his name. Former students organized a fundraising campaign to finance the faculty chair, which is now held by Professor Douglas Ambrose.

"Receiving the Sidney Wertimer Jr. Chair was the greatest honor of my professional career because of who Sid was," said Ambrose. "To me, to my colleagues, and to the countless students who were blessed to know him, Sid personified the teacher who demonstrated his respect for his students by holding them to the highest academic and personal standards. Few of us can even hope to approach what Sid accomplished during his 52 years here, but all of us can honor him by striving to preserve and protect the principles he held dear: honesty, responsibility, and excellence."

Even after officially retiring at age 70, Wertimer continued to teach an accounting class during the fall semesters, including the Fall '04 term. "Not only did Professor Wertimer know absolutely everything about the subject of accounting, but perhaps more importantly, he knew how to apply it to each of our lives on an individual basis," said Andrew DeCastro '05, who took Wertimer's accounting class last semester. "Being able to spend time with him outside the classroom was something I will never forget."

Wertimer's longstanding commitment to Hamilton could be witnessed in the multi-generational connection he had with Hamilton alumni and students. "The Saturday before commencement the faculty are requested to attend the parents' reception," said Pliskin. "There were a remarkable number of former students who now had children attending Hamilton who would come by just to say hello to Wertimer."

In addition to his role at Hamilton, Wertimer was also committed to the Clinton community. He served as an active firefighter at the Clinton Fire Department from 1957 until just recently. "His favorite part of the fire department was being in the apparatus on the truck with the lights and sirens," said Fire Chief Bill Roberts. "One of his last requests was that he wanted to hear the sirens and lights again, so we're going to be up there for the memorial service."

The memorial service for Wertimer will be held on Thursday, February 10 at 4 p.m. at the College Chapel. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that gifts be made to the Hamilton College Town-Gown Fund.

The former DKE house will be named in honor of the Wertimers, as a testament to their contributions to the community.

The dormitory will open for use in the fall. "He epitomized, for me, not only the greatness of Hamilton College, but the humanity of Hamilton College," said President Stewart. "Sidney is irreplaceable."

Feldt urges students to fight for women's reproductive rights

*from **Feldt**, page 1*

dinators. "At the time of scheduling she was the President of Planned Parenthood, and they did expect protestors from off campus," Ingalls said.

No protestors attended the event. Feldt's speech focused on what she calls the "war on rights" the war against a women's right to reproductive freedom. "I believe that women's reproductive rights are women's fundamental human rights," she said, noting that Americans must fight to protect them.

Feldt added that this war is being fought on a number of different fronts, including court decisions, pro-life legislation and barriers that prevent women from accessing reproductive services. "Don't be fooled by the exit polls on moral values," Feldt said. "America is pro-choice and pro-choice is a moral value."

Later, Feldt urged students to "fight forward" for reproductive rights. Following her lecture, the past president of Planned Parenthood fielded questions from the audience.

In an interview with the Spectator prior to the lecture, Feldt described her connection to Planned Parenthood as highly personal: she believes that the Birth Control Pill saved her life. While growing up in rural Texas during the 1950s, Feldt had married her high school sweetheart and was pregnant at age 15. "By a few weeks after my twentieth birthday, I had three children," she said, "And then I awakened."

That awakening came in part due wide release of the Birth Control Pill. "The Birth Control Pill enabled me to take much better care of the children I already hard. It enabled me to aspire to have a professional career. And it enabled me to get a college education," Feldt said. "The Birth Control Pill is really about ensuring the well being of children. And it is about a woman's ability to achieve her hopes and dreams."

It was in that spirit that Feldt joined up with Planned Parenthood for a career that would span 30 years, nine of which as president. But for Feldt, the past few years with Planned Parenthood were intense; not only did she head-up operations, she served as president of Planned Parenthood Action Fund, the organization's political arm. In addition, Feldt authored two books. Behind Every Choice Is a Story was released in 2003 and The War on Choice: the Right-Wing Attack on Women's Rights and How to Fight Back followed in 2004.

"I was working 80 hour weeks, and I was getting very tired of that," she said. "While I had originally planned on doing this job for five years, it had been nearly nine!"

As for the future, Feldt plans to spend more time with her grandchildren. But she also wishes continue writing books and visiting college campuses. For Feldt, visits to college campuses make up an important part of her life. "I never view it as passing the torch," Feldt said of her visits to colleges across the country. "I view it as lighting many more torches. A movement has to move. And a movement needs to have new ideas and new leaders."

In that spirit, Feldt helped Planed Parenthood to establish VOX: Voices for Planned Parenthood. The new program was designed to mobilize a new generation in support of reproductive health and rights. Hamilton established its own chapter of VOX in 2004.

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The Spectator

"Older than the New York Times"

There are more sides to the recent controversy than we can address in one editorial, and even the discussion among the staff continues. However, the entire editorial board did see one thing clearly, and it upset and infuriated us greatly: through the actions of various professors, administrators and media who were vehemently opposed to Churchill's potential presence on campus, students were forced into a black and white choice. We could either watch the debate and be a terrorist supporter, or show respect for the victims of 9/11 and stand outside.

In all honestly, most of us couldn't have cared less what Ward Churchill actually would have said at the panel. The true draw of the panel was to see how academics we respect would handle the inflammatory rhetoric. We were curious to see how Professors Richard Werner and Philip Klinkner would respond and how Hamilton professors and students would conduct themselves in what could have been the most contentious, most nationally recognized, and passionate debate any of us will see during our college years. What many fail to understand is that people who planned to attend the panel for the above reasons are not 9/11 apologists, and in fact, it is insulting that some people on this Hill thought they were.

No one can deny the physical and emotional pain caused by 9/11, and no one in their right mind would agree with the statements Ward Churchill has made regarding the victims.

However, the most unfortunate part of this whole ordeal was not what Churchill said, and not that the panel was ultimately cancelled, but that the faculty, community and media were all forcing students between the panel and the protest, between being a terrorist supporter and being respectful of the victims of 9/11.

Perhaps the worst part was that this choice was forced on the students by the very people who are supposed to be educating us. Why do we need to make the choice between our emotions and our intellectual development? Shouldn't we learn to reconcile them?

What is the moral of this story? We may not know for some time, as the debate and discussion regarding free speech, academic freedom, and institutional responsibility continue. But we have learned one thing: that when we are given only these two polarized choices, no one learns anything.

The Spectator

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Saying goodbye is never easy, but it is especially difficult in the case of our beloved Professor Emeritus of Economics Sidney Wertimer.

Professor Wertimer began teaching economics at Hamilton in 1952. And although he officially retired at the age of 70, Professor Wertimer continued to teach accounting classes at the College up until last fall. His wit, intelligence and big-heart inspired Hamilton students for over fifty years.

There are those of us who find the financial transactions of a business firm boring. And there are those of us who have studied with Professor Wertimer. In the classroom, Professor Wertimer could often be found dazzling students with his expansive knowledge. The man knew everything that there is to know about economics. And he possessed the remarkable ability to relate economic theory to everyday life on the Hill. We're not exaggerating - just ask anyone of his students.

But during his tenure at the College, Professor Wertimer taught us more than just economics. He taught us the importance of building community. He taught us discipline and patience. And he taught us what it means to truly love learning. Professor Wertimer was not only a teacher, he was a mentor and friend.

Students recognized this unique spirit in Professor Wertimer. In the early 1990s, a group of Professor Wertimer's students raised the funds to endow a faculty chair in his name. Like many other chairs at the College, the Wertimer Chair is awarded to faculty members with distinguished records of teaching and scholarship. But much like Wertimer himself, the Chair recognizes those special professors whose commitment to students transcends traditional boundaries.

Even last semester, Professor Wertimer was a familiar face around campus. Garbed in academic regalia, he attended convocation each fall and commencement each spring. He could be spotted at lectures, performances and other community events. And the door to his office was always open.

Professor Wertimer was everything a Hamilton professor ought to be: intelligent, professional, caring, courteous, and one hell of an economics professor. All students of the College would be right to emulate Professor Wertimer's passion and curiosity. All faculty members should emulate his commitment to scholarship and his undergraduate students. And all of us should aspire to be as kind and as loving as was Sidney Wertimer.

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(all served with chips and garlic-dill pickle spear)

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Media frenzy focuses on Hamilton, Churchill

*from **Media**, page 1*

Government Philip Klinkner appeared on "The O'Reilly Factor" along with Matt Coppo '07 and his mother Patricia Coppo. Matt's father and Patricia's husband, Joseph Coppo, was killed in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

In that episode, O'Reilly called "Ward Churchill an anti-American fanatic" and asserted that "He does have a constitutional right to these ravings, but he should be shunned by all responsible people."

He continued, "However, Churchill is not being shunned. Hamilton College in upstate New York has actually invited the man to speak next week."

Matt Coppo told O'Reilly that "I absolutely love the school. And it just hurts knowing that they're willing to put this guy [in a panel], give him the money to speak at the school."

During the episode, Klinkner explained to O'Reilly that Churchill was originally invited to speak at Hamilton on an entirely separate topic, but that the College changed the panel's focus once Churchill's comments about the 9/11 victims became known.

Klinkner also reinforced the idea that Hamilton was committed to presenting numerous viewpoints.

"The view at Hamilton is that we shouldn't be deciding what points of view are legitimate and what points of view are not legitimate," he told O'Reilly.

O'Reilly, however, disagreed, stating that the situation would "be a very black mark on Hamilton...And I will tell you that I would call for the resignation of the chancellor of the school if I had anything to do with the school. I would have that person fired. The board of directors of the school should do that immediately. The alumni of Hamilton should not give one nickel to the school if this person appears."

O'Reilly again discussed the Churchill situation on "The Factor" on Monday, January 31, and on Tuesday, February 1. Again, he blasted Hamilton, calling it a "troubled college" and calling on College President Joan Hinde Stewart to resign. O'Reilly also gave out Stewart's phone number and e-mail address, encouraging his viewers to contact her. According to Stewart, she had received over 7,000 e-mails by Wednesday morning.

Stewart dismissed O'Reilly's disparaging comments, insisting that although she found Churchill's comments "deplorable," the College was staying true to its mission by allowing Churchill to fulfill his engagement.

"Bill O'Reilly does show-biz news," she told The Spectator on Wednesday, "and he certainly has a very large audience, and he proves that when he speaks, people write."

After the College cancelled Churchill's visit to campus on Tuesday morning due to threats of violence, O'Reilly insinuated that Stewart used the threats as an excuse to cancel the panel and was in fact folding under intense media pressure.

"Did Hamilton get threats? Well I'm sure they did. We get them here almost every day. There are a lot of deranged people running around," O'Reilly stated on-air on Tuesday. "Was that the primary reason for the cancellation? Maybe. But Stewart had to realize that donations to the college would plummet, and so would her job security."

Stewart responded Wednesday morning, claiming that it is "easy for Mr. O'Reilly to say he goes on and has his show anyway [when he receives threats]. It's very different on a college campus."

Stewart reiterated her reasoning for canceling the panel, asserting that "the president is charged with the safety and security of 1700 students" and the community at large. She stressed that a significant difference exists between dealing with threats in a television studio and dealing with them on a large college campus.

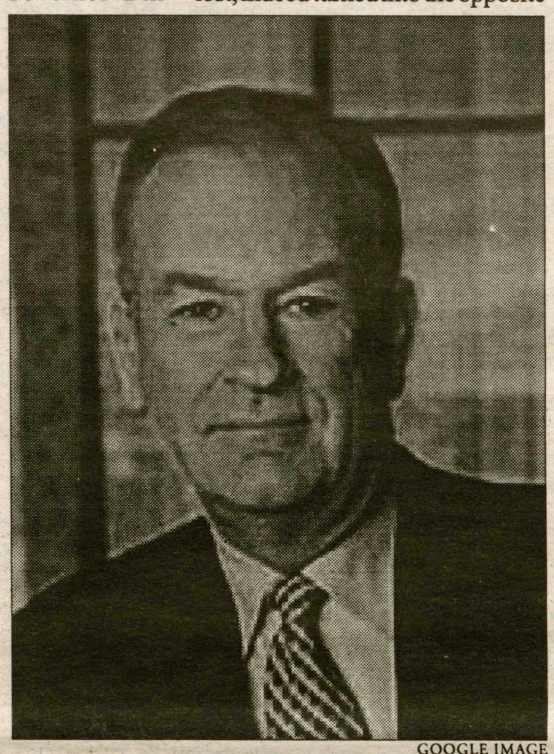
"The O'Reilly Factor" was not the only media outlet criticizing Hamilton for allowing Churchill to speak. On Friday, January 28, The Wall Street Journal ran an editorial titled "There They Go Again: Hamilton College welcomes a cheerleader for the 9/11 attackers."

"In a way, it's almost pathetic to see little Hamilton, with its at least 77% Caucasian student body, pretend to teach students about 'diversity' and the real world by carting in rent-a-radicals to indoctrinate them in the theater of outrage," the Journal wrote.

According to Stewart, the College was inundated with telephone calls and e-mails after the initial media buzz. The controversy drew attention in Colorado as well, where Churchill is a professor of ethnic studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder (UC) and had been chair of the department until his resignation this past Monday under pressure from the university and from Colorado Governor Bill Owens.

In a letter to the UC College Republicans dated February 1, Owens attacked Churchill's views and called for his resignation from the university.

"All decent people, whether Republican or Democrat, liberal or conservative, should denounce the views of Ward Churchill...No one wants to infringe on Mr. Churchill's right to express himself. But we are not compelled to accept his pro-terrorist views at state taxpayer subsidy nor under the banner of the University of Colorado," Owens wrote. "His resignation as chairman of the Ethnic Studies Department was a good first step. We hope that he will follow this step by resigning his position on the faculty."



GOOGLE IMAGE

Bill O'Reilly has harshly criticized Hamilton College on FOX News.

When contacted, UC forwarded The Spectator a letter from Interim Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano.

"I personally find the opinions to be offensive and hurtful to everyone affected by the 9/11 tragedy. I am particularly sorry that any of the loved ones of the 9/11 victims have been hurt by Professor Churchill's writings," DiStefano wrote. "I want to assure you that I am actively working with faculty, staff, students, the Board of Regents and others to uphold the integrity of the University of Colorado at Boulder and to protect the educational process as we work to resolve this situation."

On January 31, Churchill issued a statement responding to the attention his essay has drawn over the past several weeks. He asserted that the media representation of his comments had been inaccurate and exaggerated.

"What I actually said has been lost, indeed turned into the opposite of itself," he stated, laying out nine points he hoped would clear the air.

Among those points, Churchill stated that "It should be emphasized that I applied the 'Little Eichmanns' characterization only to those described as 'technicians.' Thus it was obviously not directed to the children, janitors, food service workers, firemen and random passers-by killed in the 9-1-1 attack...The bottom line of my argument is that the best and perhaps only way to prevent 9-1-1-style attacks on the U.S. is for American citizens to compel their government to comply with the rule of law."

Professor of Government Theodore Eismeier, a vocal critic of the College's decision to invite Churchill, dismissed the statement.

"His recent tortured reinterpretations of his own words are a desperate attempt to make himself over from Che Guevarra to Ghandi," he stated.

Within a matter of two weeks, Ward Churchill went from obscure professor to the topic of news programs across the country.

"This is the world we live in," Klinkner said. "Controversial issues zip around the internet and information gets out there; it's accessible, and it goes."

Many at Hamilton worry that the controversy will affect donations and admissions.

People are trying very hard to mobilize folks not to give money," Margaret Bundy Scott Professor of Comparative Literature and Director of the Kirkland Project Nancy Rabinowitz stated. "People are mobilizing the alumni to be dissatisfied, but I think there is a lot we can say back to them about why this place is wonderful because of this issue."

Klinkner stated that he believes any damage done to Hamilton will only be short-term.

"Most people don't have much of an impression of Hamilton College, so this will pass," he stated. "It will drop off the radar screen."

Internally, Klinkner believes that Hamilton has a great deal of work to do in order to heal.

"There's just been a sort of breakdown of trust, and everybody at Hamilton College needs to think about how they need to work to restore that trust so that our alumni and the donors will understand that Hamilton is not a place about Ward Churchill, it's a place about providing a quality education and not about ideologies or political agendas," Klinkner said.

Ultimately, Stewart asserted that the issues involved with the Churchill controversy will continue to be discussed on campus and questions regarding free speech will continue to be addressed. Stewart stated that not only will Hamilton embrace those questions, but that the College will facilitate the discussions.

"We will continue to engage with those questions...we will also doubtless continue to have controversial speakers on campus," Stewart stated.

Faculty give Stewart standing ovation for free speech stance

*from **Faculty**, page 2*

media controversy.)

In other business, Stewart addressed the recent report of the Task Force on Academic and Student Life. She explained that while the College will eventually hire someone for the new dean of the college position, she was pleased to "give [current interim dean of students] Nancy Thompson the permanent title of dean of students." Thompson will also handle the responsibilities of the new position as the interim appointee to the position.

Prior to Stewart's remarks, the faculty voted unanimously to approve the name change of the former Department of Geology to the "Department of Geosciences." Professor Gene Domack, chair of the department, explained the rationale behind the change, saying the new title "more accurately reflects the direction the department has taken in the last 15 years... 'Geosciences' encompasses what we do," Domack said, adding that the new name reflects the study of "more than just earth and rocks."

Professor of Comparative Literature Peter Rabinowitz then gave his bi-annual report from the Committee on Budget and Finance. He described the budgetary problems with starting all of the facilities projects the College currently has planned, including the expansion of KJ and the Emerson Gallery. The committee has balanced the budget, and Rabinowitz reported that "there are no immediate crises now," and that "next year will look a lot like this year." He added that the Committee "would love to get [Hamilton] out of the top five schools in tuition, which is where we are right now."

After running out of time at the last faculty meeting, Couper Librarian Randy Ericson detailed some of the findings of the Library Task Force. He cited four challenges for the Library: the changing nature of technology, balancing the Library's print and virtual collections, the materials budget, and the need for space for special collections. Integrating work in all of those areas has resulted, Ericson said, in the Library's new "Intellectual Commons." Space concerns were a large part of the Task Force's focus, as the library will run out of room for books in 2010 and "we ran out of space for special collections 15 years ago." He also explained that there is currently a "disconnect" between the Library's public spaces, which were designed for individual study, and the needs of the College, which include an increased demand for both social and group meeting spaces.

VPAA/ Dean of the Faculty David Paris ended the meeting with the news of the death of Professor of Economics, Emeritus Sidney Wertimer that morning. Wertimer was a member of the Hamilton faculty for 52 years, and his consistent presence on campus and led Paris to call Wertimer one of the "stewards of the institution." See page ?? for a full remembrance of Wertimer's life and service to the College.

Insights & Ideas

Kirkland speakers have liberal bias

by Matthew Zeller '04
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS CONTRIBUTOR

It seems that recently Hamilton has done everything in its power to sour its once prestigious reputation. The controversies surrounding Susan Rosenberg and now Ward Churchill are sadly being played out in the national media, and, in the process, making the Hamilton community at large look like fools. In my time at Hamilton I found Professor Rabinowitz (I should point out that I never took a class with her) a person who seemed to enjoy creating controversy. I actually respect this as I find her drive to expose the college community to unconventional views rewarding. Exposure to more views and perspectives is always positive. Yet, I am a bit shocked by events. Susan Rosenberg - -a convicted felon and would-be terrorist- - is not a person qualified to lecture at Hamilton college, however she reformed in prison. Nor is Ward Churchill qualified in any way to speak on "Pragmatic Pacifism and Civil Disobedience." I believe Professor Rabinowitz invited these individuals fully aware of the controversy that would result - indeed, I believe the controversy itself was just as attractive as the opportunity to expose the college community to unconventional views.

Yet when I reviewed the current line of up Kirkland Project invitees, I realized something - -they are all very opposed to either the Iraq War or the War on Terror or both. Indeed, Hamilton in the past two years has been inundated with speakers who oppose the current US military action. During my tenure at Hamilton it seemed that the student body gradually turned against US involvement in Iraq. I would venture to say that, like the US population at large, the Hamilton community has its reservations about the war. Given these reservations and the desire to expose the Hamilton community to new opinions and ideas, are speakers who oppose the war or war in all forms (i.e. views already held in favor by the Hamilton community) really the best people to expand the college's horizons? I believe not.

I read in a recent issue of *The Spectator* that the Kirkland Project is up for a long overdue review. I welcome this review and hope it results in some substantial changes - -the first being that persons of other opinions (i.e. those not held in favor by Professor Rabinowitz and her supporters) be guaranteed invites to participate in Hamilton lectures. Ask yourself this question: when was the last time you heard a professor or a guest speaker speak out in favor of the war? If the college and the Kirkland Project are truly committed to intellectual freedom and the drive for academic excellence, then I call on both to put their money with their mouths are: invite a speaker who supports the war (perhaps a veteran of the war, that is surely a perspective *seldom* expressed on the Hamilton campus). Imagine the insight that could be gained by actually talking to a person who has served in uniform in defense of our nation. I doubt that, given the current environment on campus, such a speaker will ever be invited to Hamilton.

I am proud to be a Hamilton graduate. The education I received was top-notch and greatly prepared me for life off the hill. I fear, however, that with these continuing scandals (first it was Bridget Boisselier, then President Tobin, then Susan Rosenberg and now Ward Churchill), Hamilton's reputation will sour to the point where the best students and faculty will not want to come to Hamilton for fear of being associated with its dwindling image. The time to act is now. I believe President Stuart when she claims that the college is committed to the values of free speech and intellectual freedom. Thus, I am asking the college to live up to those values and invite another unconventional speaker -- one who supports the wars. Doing this will prove to the nation and to the growing community of embarrassed alumni that Hamilton truly is a place where all views and opinions are still welcomed and expressed.

Matthew Zeller is a 2004 graduate of Hamilton College and can be reached at mczeller@maxwell.syr.edu

Liberals more accepting of free speech on the Hill

by Steve Morris '06
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS CONTRIBUTOR

It seems these days that every day brings a new controversy to our beloved Hill. Having been abroad for the fall semester, I was very surprised to find out we had hired a terrorist. But I wasn't mad. I figured, she can't be that bad if we hired her. I thought, "Now this is a liberal arts education!" Then she left and that seemed to be the end of it.

But now we have more controversy. I was actually just reading a few quotes from one speaker in particular, and as I read I couldn't help but be appalled. This person was making completely innocent people out to be Nazis! As a relative of someone who was lucky enough to get out of Germany just in time, any time I hear anyone compare anything to the Holocaust I get a little annoyed. The Holocaust was one of the lowest points in the history of mankind, so to compare anything to it seems extreme. And calling innocent Americans Nazis! Now that is just wrong.

I am, of course, speaking of Elizabeth Fox-Genovese. Now I'll admit I did not go to her lecture. While I do enjoy hearing views opposite of my own, I just had too much work that day. Too bad, too, because if I had known what she was going to say I would have immediately called all my friends, organized a protest and demanded that she not be allowed to speak. And I would have complained to Bill O'Reilly, my savior.

But wait. No one, not even the people who heard Fox-Genovese speak, muttered a word about her. I would never have heard about it if not for Jon Kuhl's *Spectator* article. And now that we've shunned the First Amendment by denying Ward Churchill the right to speak, we should ask ourselves, "What's going on?" We have now had two people involved with Hamilton who are calling innocent people Nazis, yet people only made a fuss about one. Why is this? Yes, Churchill's comments were harsher, but why was nothing made of someone else who belittled the Holocaust?

In my mind, there's only one answer, and a few of you out there won't like it. The comment made by Fox-Genovese is the kind that typically offends the left (pro-choice), while Churchill offended mostly the right (yes I was offended, but I saw no reason to not let him speak). And here is the heart of the problem, a problem I see growing across America. Many on the right, many of whom call themselves true patriots while those of us opposed to unjust wars are "un-American," don't really believe in American ideals. It is OK to say what you want, as long as it does not challenge people to think. No fuss was made about Fox-Genovese because most people who were offended by it understand that it is OK for someone to express his or her views, no matter how offensive or dissident they are.

People need to take a step back and look at what's going on. Bringing a speaker here does not force you to go. Listening to a speaker neither makes you believe what they say nor does it not mean you agree with what they have to say. Personally, I would probably agree with about half of what Churchill would have had to say, although I disagree with some of what he has to say about 9/11 (Of course those killed did not deserve it; anyone who believes otherwise is crazy or stupid). But that is not the point. The point is, we should learn from people like Churchill, regardless of how much we disagree with them. If they open your eyes to a new idea that is great. If they reinforce your own viewpoints that's great too. And if they have no impact on you at all, that's too bad, because the best way to learn is to experience new things.

It is deplorable to have such an opportunity ruined by a few people with such misguided perceptions. I'm sure whoever made the threats to our school did so thinking were being good Americans. But all it does is showcase their ignorance. By blocking free speech with violence, all they are doing is making a mockery of our Constitution, the very thing that makes us Americans.

Ode to Hamilton's compromise

by Josh Newman '06
INSIGHTS & IDEAS CONTRIBUTOR

There is never anything good to see
There is never anything good to do,
We figure out what we want to be,
But we never really have a clue.

Our parents we follow from one to twelve,
And then there's that adolescent cleft,
In the decade next we'd like to delve
In whether we should be right or left.

To vote, be a republican or democrat
And pass the next amendment,
But whatever happened to the other guys
Who simply want to be independent?

And now the time to be complex,
And deal with an issue of our time,
It makes people angry, irksome and quietly vexed.
And waste quatrains of awfully hackneyed rhyme.

We go to a college upon the Hill,
Where we toil all day and grind.
Ideas poured 'til we've had our fill
Of what the college wants in our minds.

But what should be in our young heads?
What should be between our young ears?
Thoughts we keep as we lay down to bed,
Thoughts that could bring smiles or tears.

To get into this school of prestigious might,
And given the every chance to excel,
Four years, we'd have to be pretty bright
And have more than two old brain cells.

A Lib. Art. Education we're meant to learn,
A taste of everything is for what we pay.
But look around, and be concerned
Because it's nothing but one-way.

Endowment is always important
Prestige is forever up front.
But for all the free thought they'd like to plant
It is only a facade and an affront.

A trend is here that has to end
Despite all the hurt and the chastise.
Think for yourself and not for your friend.
Let's bring everyone here and not compromise.

What you didn't see on TV

The Kirkland Project speaks out

by Nancy Rabinowitz
MARGARET BUNDY SCOTT PROFESSOR OF COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

There are so many things to say and do in the wake of the last several months. What have we learned here? Well, for one thing, we have learned that we do not live in an ivory tower, or if we do, then it is on the set of "The O'Reilly Factor" (I think of Jim Carrey in The Truman Show). There are several interrelated issues: what did Ward Churchill actually say? Should he have been invited to Hamilton College? Why and how he was prevented from coming and speaking.

The unfortunate ending to the college's earnest defense of Churchill's right to speak has been caused by the same (to quote Churchill, in his press release on his actual argument) "widespread and grossly inaccurate media coverage" that distorted his "analysis of the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, coverage that has resulted in defamation of my character and threats against [his] life." Churchill continues: "What I actually said has been lost, indeed turned into the opposite of itself, and I hope the following facts will be reported at least to the same extent that the fabrications have been."

The cost to Ward Churchill has been considerable, and I fear that the cost to the academy might be even greater.

It is easy to defend Ward Churchill's right to speak simply on the basis of free speech, but as we all know, those rights are not absolute but limited to some extent. They are limited further by the fact that we at the College have to make choices; we don't have infinite resources at our disposal and cannot bring every possible speaker to campus.

So, why invite him? The Kirkland Project originally invited Ward Churchill as an expert and dynamic speaker on issues of social class as they affect Native American peoples, with a focus on incarceration. He has spoken at over 400 colleges and universities on these and similar topics; in the recent past he has spoken at such institutions as Macalester, McMaster, Miami of Ohio, Swarthmore and Colby. There were no problems surrounding his talks on these topics at those campuses, nor indeed when he spoke at Hamilton some years ago.

What happened at Hamilton? A small group of faculty discovered his remarks about Sept. 11 and pointed them out to the director of the Kirkland Project and the administration. One in particular said that this would be controversial. At the instruction of the dean and the President, the Kirkland Project changed his talk to a panel that focused on the very dangerous ideas being opposed by that small group of faculty. The Kirkland Project, as I have said elsewhere, recognized the intellectual value of discussing Churchill's long argument; we agreed to sponsor a panel questioning "the limits of dissent."

The panel was later cancelled because of the threats to public safety, which were ironically a form of the very terrorism that was attriboted to Churchill in the inflammatory flyers around campus, a terrorist violence that he does not practice. Churchill has made his position clear in a recent press release. After citing Martin Luther King's quotation of Robert F. Kennedy ("Those who make peaceful change impossible make violent change inevitable"), he goes on to say that "This is not to say that I advocate violence; as a U.S. soldier in Vietnam I witnessed and participated in more violence than I ever wish to see. What I am saying is that if we want an end to violence, especially that perpetrated against civilians, we must take the responsibility for halting the slaughter perpetrated by the United States around the world. My feelings are reflected in Dr. King's April 1967 Riverside speech, where, when asked about the wave of urban rebellions in U.S. cities, he said, 'I could never again raise my voice against the violence of the oppressed without having first spoken clearly to the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today - my own government.'"

Churchill, in other words, is not advocating violence. Rather, he is analyzing the inevitability of reciprocal violence if we continue to practice violence ourselves.

But wasn't the invitation to Churchill insensitive to the grief of the families and friends of the victims of the WTC attacks-insensitive to the grief of all of us? Perhaps. But O'Reilly and others manipulated and used the grief experienced by the families and friends of the victims of the WTC attacks to silence Ward Churchill. Immediately after 9/11 the mourning of our losses made critique impossible, but three years later, we have an intellectual obligation to look at the places that hurt if we want to learn how to end the cycle of violence. As Aeschylus said, "wisdom comes through suffering."

The media blitz that ended with O'Reilly calling on listeners to deluge the college with e-mail and phone calls was clearly the opposite of the kind of rational discourse we pride ourselves on at an institution of higher learning. As a result, the Kirkland Project, the president and Communications and Development all received calls from people who knew nothing about Hamilton and nothing about Ward Churchill beyond a few stock phrases. Perhaps they sent in death threats. In that case, the audience for the "O'Reilly Factor" controlled what Hamilton students have access to.

So what should members of the Hamilton community do when they disagree with speakers? Obviously there are many approaches short of bullying the community in an attempt to shut a conversation down. One model might be the reaction to the visit of Elizabeth Fox-Genovese. The feminist community at Hamilton did not protest her talk; some simply stayed away respectfully and many others went and listened, though her remarks were extremely painful to many who were directly affected by her statements. Was that the right approach? I think so. If we do not stand up for the right to hear unpopular views -- be they on the right or on the left or somewhere else -- the next attack may be on syllabi and the like.

In response to Bill O'Reilly's remark about the bad reputation the college now has, I would say that this is a great school with great students and faculty, and that the controversy here is what education is all about. I would encourage students to come to Hamilton because there is a diversity of programming, and because many students and faculty are willing to defend it. In this instance, the administration supported academic freedom-not an absolute or abstract idea of freedom of speech, but the freedom we depend on to continue to teach and learn. We can be proud of that and boast about the free exchange of ideas we normally enjoy at Hamilton College. I am particularly proud of the way our students have conducted themselves.

Nancy Rabinowitz is the director of the Kirkland Project

Thumbs Up Thumbs Down Who Cares?

- Freedom - if you don't love it, America'll put a red, white and blue boot up yer ass

- Half-Rosenberg/Churchill discussion classes when you're brutally underprepared

- Pats success reminding Sox fans that they beat the Yankees, and that ARod's a bitch

- Delicious cheesy Phillies

- Margie and Chambliss

- Hamilton's IM scene: so competetive, so awkward.

- Spin Dip at Toggenburg's Foggy Goggle. The Booze too.

- Having a mailbox on the bottom damn row

- Cigarettes being put out by the bitter bitter cold, and then lighting them in the wind

- David Horowitz and his whack textbook he whipped out at the last minute of his interview

- Channel 54 ruining your favorite movie. *Last Samurai* NEVER AGAIN!

- Muddy water with pebbles and dirt that you walk through in your socks because it's all over your room

by Bill Chenevert '05

- Freshmen in the pub for lunch - leave now

- Bill O'Reilly's grudge against Hamilton because only Marist would let him in

- Hamilton's cameo on GodHatesFags.com - no joke

- Paul McCartney for the Super Bowl halftime - will there be nipples involved?

- Cranky conservative alumni pulling their donations - again, I'd rather not be educated with their soulless, dirty money

Academic freedom and academic responsibilities

by Robert Simon
PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY
&
Richard Werner
JOHN STEWART KENNEDY PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Academic freedom has been a central value in the debates about the Kirkland Project's invitation to Ward Churchill and earlier to Susan Rosenberg. But how does academic freedom apply to these cases?

It is important to distinguish First Amendment protections for freedom of speech from academic freedom. The First Amendment restrains the government from interfering with freedom of speech. While it might also apply to state institutions, such as Churchill's home base at the University of Colorado or to the University of Michigan, where a vaguely worded hate speech code was struck down by the courts partially on First Amendment grounds, it is at best unclear how it might apply at a private institution such as Hamilton.

Academic freedom is a special set of protections that applies primarily to academics (but also, although perhaps less directly, to students) in pursuit of their research and teaching that might require them to take controversial stands on a variety of issues. The key documents are those of the American Association of University Professors. These documents often have been used as guidelines or standards by the courts in cases involving academic freedom and are accepted, at least in the main, by nearly all highly regarded colleges and universities in the United States. It is noteworthy that these documents distinguish liberty from licence and place an obligation on academics to be responsible, which we would understand as at least requiring or encouraging reasoned argument based on evidence and fairness to major alternate views of the issues.

Academic freedom might apply to the Churchill controversy at three stages; the issuing of the original invitation, the decision not to rescind the invitation once his views on 9/11 became known and the decision on whether to go on with his appearance once the issue received national notoriety. Clearly the best case for the application of doctrines of academic freedom would be at stage three, since withdrawal of the invitation at that point might have seemed to be bowing to outside pressure and might have led to greater protests against future speakers.

However, the case for appealing to academic freedom, as many others have pointed out, is far less compelling at the earlier stages. Virtually everyone agrees that we were not required to invite Churchill in the first place; he has no right to be invited. The questions at that stage are whether good judgment was used in issuing the invitation and whether faculty who did invite him exercised reasonable responsibility in checking out his publications.

Let us restrict our remarks, however, to stage two. What should Hamilton and the Kirkland Project have done when his views became known? While some would argue that to pull the plug at that point would be to dismiss Churchill because of his views, and so violate academic freedom, we suggest that view faces severe difficulties. We would point to the example of Harvard, whose English Department in 2002 rescinded an invitation to a poet, Tom Paulin, some of whose work was regarded by many as anti-Semitic, on the grounds that they had not known of his remarks before inviting him.

Those who apply academic freedom to the Churchill case might ask whether academic freedom at stage two applies (or if it does, whether it trumps all other values) by considering the Paulin case, or even worse. Suppose the College had invited Amiri Baraka, the Poet Laureate of New Jersey, before they found out that in a poem he had spread the vicious canard that thousands of Jews had been warned before the 9/11 attacks and were able to leave the building in advance of the tragedy. Suppose we find out that an invited anti-abortion speaker had, unknown to us, endorsed and seemed to take glee in the murder of women who had abortions. (They, after all, are "complicit" in what some anti-abortionists regard as mass murder.) What about someone who wrote that the Holocaust was a reasonable response to alleged misdeeds of Jews? Would the same people who defend the invitation to Churchill on grounds of academic freedom also want to claim that academic freedom absolutely rules out withdrawing our invitation in all cases of this kind?

By putting safety over speech, and cancelling Churchill's appearance, the College has acknowledged that academic freedom is not an absolute value but that it sometimes can be outweighed. Doesn't academic responsibility also require us to consider the great pain the invitation caused to thousands and thousands of families and friends of the victims (as well as to examine the miniscule intellectual value of Churchill's rhetoric).

Consider also the jobs and salaries of those on the staff and physical plant, the administration, the financial aid of needy students present and future and the other at-risk members of our community who may well be harmed by the apparently very large sums the college is losing because of the decisions to invite Churchill and Rosenberg. Better choices than Rosenberg and Churchill could have been made and the same intended ends accomplished, yet with little, if any, of the harm. At some point it becomes reasonable to say, "You should have known better", especially considering the possible harms to segments of our community not best able to bear them and who bear no responsibility for the decision. Those who claim that the threat of violence was insufficient warrant to cancel the panel would not be held responsible if violence occurred and were unaware of what security arrangements were or were not feasible.

So while academic freedom might apply to the last weeks of the Churchill crisis, it is doubtful if it applied, or applied with the same force, to earlier stages. The College has a responsibility to protect debate and critical inquiry, but Churchill's views seem much closer to hate speech directed against the victims of 9/11 than to reasoned discourse. A college is the right place to debate critiques of America's policy, certainly including those of the left, but don't we want intellectually respectable debate rather than inflamed rhetoric, especially when we can have the debate without such rhetoric?

We understand that many principled people of good-will may reject our analysis, but hope that they will accept the point about academic responsibility; that the College must take steps to insure not only that unpopular views can be expressed but also that discourse be a genuine contribution to critical inquiry and not merely inflammatory. While some Hamiltonians may pride themselves for standing up for academic freedom, and blame our problems on O'Reilly and a "vast right-wing conspiracy," the Churchill incident has, with reason, dealt academic responsibility, as well as the reputation of the College among thoughtful people across the country, a severe blow.

What's the moral of the story?

by Jeff McArn
COLLEGE CHAPLIN

We have spent a lot of energy inside (and to be sure, outside) our campus community in the last three months talking about moral principles, or in presidential election terms -- moral values. What do we mean when we talk about what is moral?

When we talk about a moral issue, it seems to me, we recognize two opposing sides of the argument at hand. Gay marriage, abortion, affirmative action, capital punishment, freedom of speech even when the content may be repugnant -- well, are you for these or against? We characterize one side (whichever one it is) as right and good, and then there's the other side, which is morally bankrupt. And we reinforce our own sense of being in the right with offering words to the enemy camp like, "I am morally outraged that..." or "I am deeply offended that," or just "Shame on you!"

And do we listen to one another as we engage in moral debate? Sure, we listen intensely just until we figure out which side you're on. And once we discover that, the need for listening expires. "I've learned all I need to know," we think to ourselves. "Either you're with me, in which case I don't need to waste energy listening to something I already believe. Or you're against me, and I don't need to hear the lies and ignorant drivel you're about to spout."

Have I overstated the division, both in our country and on our campus? I hope so, because if this is how we conduct ourselves, we are a long way from anything I would call moral discourse. The beginning of moral inquiry is the desire to understand the perspective of another person. On the one hand, this empathizing with others is implicit in the moral positions we embrace. For example, pro-lifers try to see things from the perspective of the life of those who cannot protect themselves; pro-choicers try to see things from the perspective of the pregnant mothers who risk losing control of what happens within their own bodies.

On the other hand, it is a failure of the moral imagination to turn our backs on those with whom we disagree, not wanting to understand what motivates them, or discern any point of common ground.

We tend to seek out those who are like ourselves ideologically so we can remain steadfast and pure in our moral positions, but this is not what requires moral courage. We can even feel good about standing alone to speak our truth to a roomful of people who hold an opposing view, but this is not what requires moral courage. What requires moral courage is to sit down with those you perceive to be your moral -- if not mortal -- enemies, and honestly listen to them with the hope of actually understanding them.

That's what it means to pursue the moral life: to desire to see things from the perspective of the other -- especially when the other is against you -- so that divisions within the whole community might be healed, and so that we might be free to learn from each other, instead of trying to defeat each other. Maybe if we found this kind of moral courage and imagination we could move ahead into a deeper commitment to each other and to Hamilton College itself, offering the kind of open learning environment for our students where we are all assured of being heard by each other without the need for outside media to increase the volume of our own voice.

The most important thing, finally, is letting go of the conviction that my side -- whatever that may be -- is right. The important thing is realizing that moral correctness is not something we can possess individually, but requires the unity of the full community. Only when we are committed to supporting and tending to the welfare of all people in our community are we prepared to experience some form of moral wisdom.

This is why we depend on the diversity of our community, to remind us that none of us individually holds the truth, but if we can manage to come together -- free and encouraged to express our differences with none being excluded or disparaged -- there is truth to be found there.

Sidney Wertimer loved Hamilton, as President Stewart wrote in commemorating his death this week. What did he love about this place? (Some people out there on the other end of our recent media blitz might be wondering.) Maybe Elie can give us the real insight on that, but I suspect he loved Hamilton College because it is a place where relationships are deeply forged and these bonds of friendship and collegial connections support us as we pursue the wisdom of today and of the ages.

I suspect he loved Hamilton College not, as some may, because of *US News* rankings, or the market value of the Hamilton degree, but because this is a place where lives are transformed through serious pursuits of knowledge and attempts at understanding the world. This understanding arises, not primarily from our own isolated investigation of the subject matter (otherwise we could all do correspondence courses) but through a community of learning which at its core depends upon our ability to share an open exchange with each other.

I know that's what I love about this place. And as we come together on Thursday to thank Sidney Wertimer for his lifetime of contribution to what we have come to know as Hamilton College, let's all look within ourselves for the moral courage to sustain this treasure we have inherited.

So . . . where do we go from here?

by Britten Chase '05
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS EDITOR

You know the saying, "Be the change you wish to see in the world?" I feel that Hamilton College is quickly becoming the change I do not want to see in this world.

That's what makes this so frusterating.

First off, I would like to say that it is a bad time in America to anger police officers (see Disaster, Rosenberg), and I never thought we could top that.

But no. We did. Way to anger the victims of 9/11 and their families; the most sympathized-with group in America.

(Note: I really want to compare them to some other group, but I am way to afraid to draw any kind of connections. To anything. In general.)

Sure, even with Churchill's non-visit, Hamilton got something out of it. When I go home, no one is going to ask where Hamilton is anymore. Or if it's a community college. It also allowed for the campus to engage in a semi-civilized debate...even if the rest of the world has lost it. It allowed certain members of the Spectator staff to practice their journalism skills for other papers (read: pad resume).

But with the cancellation of Thursday's theoretical extravaganza (Churchill-gate?), Hamilton became the first college in the history of the universe (the greatest universe ever (but it is slipping in the rankings)) to cancel a speaker due to threats of violence.

Of course, it was probably due to other factors. It is naive to think that extreme media pressue, the anger of 9/11 families, the angry emotional reaction from the vast majority of the nation, and alumni no longer showing the money had to play a part.

But security is a reasonable answer. On his Tuesday night show, Bill O'Reilly pointed out that the University of California-Berkeley brought in all their campus safety officers and 30 armoured guards when a controversial speaker came to their campus. Bill may or may not have realized that this is not Berkeley, and he may or may not realize that among other things, going to school in rural upstate new york with twelve other people does not necessarily include having our own S.E.A.L. unit. While we have a crack squad of elite Campus Safety officers, people were threatening us. They had bombs and guns and southern conservatives. We had cannons behind North.

The President's Office made the decision to make the safety of the panel and the Hamilton community the priority. As a member of the Hamilton community, I appreciate that. However, I also can't help but think that this is kind of like the kids at Kent State canceling their protest because the police threatened to beat them up.

Is free speech worth dying for? I've never had to make that decision. I would have to ask those that fought in the revolutionary war.

But they're dead. Foiled again.

What I do know is this. Hamilton has sent a dangerous precedent. It is very disconcerting to know that Hamilton may not believe in what I have to say, and it may or may not defend my right to say it. That is not how the saying is supposed to go. Churchill was supposed to be our Klu Klux Klan walking down the middle of Broadway. We failed the most basic and most important first amendment test.

And so, I find I am asking myself, "Self, where do we go from here?" And the answer of course was to the pub. But, as many of the greatest thinkers of all time have also wondered, "Where do we go from the pub?" Hamilton should now have three goals to finish out this crazy, crazy, amusing year.

First, I hate to be whiney, but we are still owed a debate on academic freedom. That could bring some closure to the situation. And...please...this time, if we choose to have a panel for the debate, please bring someone that won't...you know...call the KGB the Soviet Union's version of "Candid Camera."

Second, this situation was poorly planned, poorly executed, and the results are shameful on all levels. And it's not the first time this has happened in the last academic year. Changes are needed. Some are calling for the resignation of President Tobin, but he swears that he had nothing to do with this. So they want the head of the current leader. Whoever that may be. Some are calling for a violent crushing of the Kirkland Project (or, as many in C&D wish they could have said this week, "What Kirkland Project?"). All these decisions need to be thought through, and need to be made when the situation is completly finished. And now is not the time. Probably not tomorrow either. Cooler heads need to prevail, and only when we have proper perspective on the situation can we make sane choices. And sanity sounds really nice right now.

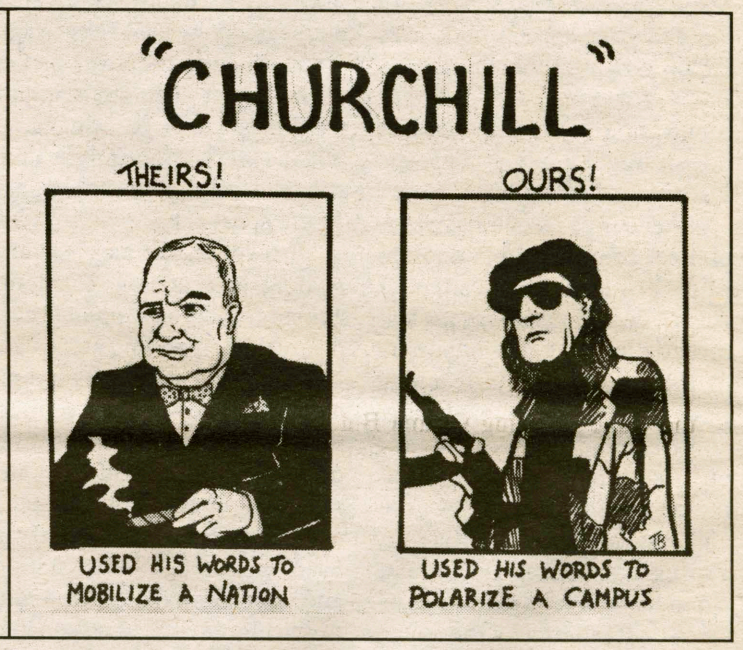
Third goal: Try to not piss off anyone else for the rest of the year.

Really try this time.

Drawing Criticism

by

Tom Booth '06



Letters to the editor

THE SPECTATOR'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMNUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECTION EXPRESS THE OPINION OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF *THE SPECTATOR*, ITS EDITORS, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, *THE SPECTATOR* HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION:

1. Submissions are due by 6:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before publication. Submissions can be sent by email to spec@hamilton.edu or to the individual I&I editors (wkimmel@hamilton.edu or bchase@hamilton.edu). The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

I am writing to express my extreme dissatisfaction with the decision to invite Professor Ward Churchill to speak at Hamilton. Giving Professor Churchill the privilege of expressing his aggrieving rhetoric about the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks would not have advanced the academic goals of the college and has also unnecessarily subjected Hamilton to a barrage of unfavorable national media coverage.

Once it became widely known that Professor Churchill wrote an essay which even President Stewart has acknowledged is "personally repugnant," the college should have immediately withdrawn Professor Churchill's invitation to speak at Hamilton. This would not have undermined the college's effort to protect the right to "think, speak and study freely" in any way.

A lecture given by someone who refers to the victims of September 11 as "little Eichmanns" is so vile that it should not be dignified with the honor of academic scrutiny. To do so would only undermine Hamilton's reputation as a credible academic institution. Moreover, it would inflict unnecessary pain and anguish on the Hamilton community, which was so intimately effected by the devastating terrorist attacks on September 11.

Instead of admitting that Professor Churchill's comments do not deserve to be taken seriously by any reputable academic institution, the college compounded the mistake of inviting him by maintaining that the lecture was necessary to protect free speech. This exposed the college to an unprecedented amount of negative national publicity, which has greatly upset Hamilton alums and friends for absolutely no valid reason.

Although it is too late to undo the damage caused by inviting Professor Churchill to lecture, at the very least, the college should publicly apologize for unintentionally insulting the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks. An apology would at least demonstrate that Hamilton is committed to expressing opinions in a productive and responsible manner that positively benefits our country and the world.

Sincerely,
Philip Hadji '04

Fellow 9/11 Survivors-

I can no longer sit quietly as I have to "voice" my concerns with regards to the recent canceled speech & resignation of Mr. Churchill. What I am most concerned with is the fact that as a parent of teenagers - I will soon be paying for college tuition for someone like Mr. Churchill to "teach" my young adult children. It is no wonder that society is where it is today (crime rates, economics, politics, the breakdown of the family unit, morals, ethics, etc.) with professors like Mr. Churchill teaching them.

When called on the carpet for his remarks, he offers no remorse: Unlike past historical figures like Martin Luther King, Jr - he isn't willing to stand and face the wrath that is brought on

Letters to the editor (continued)

by his own words, he simply withdraws. What type of leadership is he demonstrating? He doesn't bother to attempt to get a better understanding of the 9/11 victims, he just blatantly makes statements with no merit.

I live in Kansas City, Missouri and I'm a 9/11 survivor. I was on a business trip that day and just so happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time (WTC1-55th floor) and nearly lost my life because of it. Certainly not because of some "monetary" greed. Not because I'm some financial wizard as that I am not. Simply because I was trying to be better educated in my career (I was attending a seminar at Pace University), something that I would have thought a professor would be pleased with and understanding of.

Somehow, I got lumped into a category with those that committed some of the worst human atrocities in history. Let's have an ignorant professor teach our nation to stereotype - trust me, that is not the answer to society's problems. I would venture to say that Mr. Churchill has done nothing more that to equate himself to the terrorists of Al Quaeda & the clave dwelling Osama Bin Laden because that is the same rationale they use to justify their actions.

Shannon Loy

To President Stewart:

Congratulations. Your school is looking mighty silly: Exercise your rights of free speech, say something inflammatory, against popular American views, get invited to speak at a New York college, be subjected to America's own special brand of homegrown terrorism in the form of threats when someone disagrees with you, and have the college cancel the invitation.

What a wonderful message you've sent. I guess we can't really depend on the academic world to exercise and support free speech. Easy words to say, but when push comes to shove, you buckled.

Shame on you.
Robin McGee
Lakewood, Colorado

Dear Presidents Stewart and Hoffman, and the University of Colorado Board of Regents:

First Amendment rights in America, our currency in the exchange of ideas, are weaker today because of Hamilton's decision to cancel the panel discussion featuring University of Colorado Professor Ward Churchill.

I don't pretend to understand the details that formed Ms. Stewart's decision but ask that you consider the tyranny we would live under today if our history had been determined by decisions such as this. If Hamilton will not afford the security necessary to defend the free exchange of ideas, can it facilitate any ideas worth defending? If Hamilton's (and likewise the University of Colorado's) tuition does not implicitly cover the cost of instructional and intellectual freedom, then what you offer is training, not education.

As the Hamilton home page declares, writing well does matter. Sadly, it matters somewhat less today than yesterday. Please reconsider the power you have to strengthen the exchange of ideas in our culture of fear and support Professor Churchill's methods even - and especially - if you disagree with his message.

Respectfully,
Stephen Howell

President Stewart,

While I understand your concern over security, I am extremely disappointed by the recent cancellation of the Kirkland Project Panel. As a liberal arts college, Hamilton should serve as a bastion of free speech. If people do not agree with a speaker's points of view, then confrontation in the marketplace of ideas will settle the issue. The problem is not what the panelist had written. But those who made threats to the physical safety of you, college staff and the speaker. To be fair, my disappointment extends past you and my Alma mater, but encompasses the local, state and federal security apparatus. I am, of course, assuming you vigorously pursued security assistance from all three levels of government. I would have thought that New York, of all places, would be sensitive and responsive to security threats. Evidently not.

Sincerely,
Chris Moser '92

To the Editors:

Two recent submissions to the Spectator, coupled with the Ward Churchill debacle, prompt me to reflect on the oft-invoked concept of academic freedom.

Maurice Isserman may opine loud and long about whether Malcolm X would have been welcomed on College Hill. I, for one, recall conversing once or twice with Alex Haley, who assembled Malcolm X's autobiography, while Haley was spending a semester teaching creative writing at Hamilton in the late 1960s. The irony of Malcolm's death, of course, was that it came after he had moved beyond shock value and was attempting to create a genuine, if somewhat flawed synthesis of black restiveness and traditional Islamic teachings. The man who was gunned down 40 years ago in the Audubon ballroom was no longer the man who spouted after John Kennedy's assassination that "the chickens have come home to roost."

Alas, Ward Churchill not only is that stunted, puerile sort of man but actually had the chutzpah to expropriate Malcolm's remark about roosting chickens to excuse al-Qaida's attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Nor does he show any signs of developing the reflectiveness that Malcom developed. He's content to collect his honoraria and his headlines. The only fear he may have for his life is that somebody might stop noticing his ranting.

In short, Alex Haley had something to say. Malcolm would have had something to say. And both men had developed the ability to listen as well as to talk. Haley not only spoke in the classroom but sat over cups of coffee in the Bristol Campus Center's coffee shop enjoying give-and-take with students and professors alike.

That kind of give-and-take has always been one of the things that's made Hamilton special. You can get posturing ninnies, all too willing to opine and outrage but loath to defend their pontifications in one-on-one interplay, at any number of other over-touted, pricy, granite-walled liberal arts schools — certainly at Reed College, where Maurice Isserman, ostensibly a history professor, seems to have learned only that there was life in his own lifetime but nothing before. But the Hill seems to have lost that knack for enlightened, edifying discourse amid the ascendancy of such ramparts poseurs as Isserman and Nancy Sorkin Rabinowitz. The result is that thoughtless, incendiary provocateurs have become the grist of too many professors' mills — a predicament aggravated by the college administration's at best supine, at worst collusive willingness to tolerate such bunkum.

In light of all that has transpired since the Kirkland Project began trying to turn College Hill into just another jibbering pit for the firebrand du jour with its invitation to Rosenberg last year, I found the pieces by Professors Klinkner, Urciuoli, Eismeier, and the now suddenly gone Sid Wertimer eloquent and instructive. As they observe, the college isn't being asked to suppress disagreeable speech. Rather, it is being asked why it has chosen to subsidize these utterances. President Clinton, whose speaking engagments usually don't come cheap, had invaluable insights to share. What did Ward Churchill offer but spleen? Is that what passes for enlightenment at Hamilton these days? And how does it possibly enhance what the professors so vividly describe as the marketplace of ideas?

Sadly, I watched this fall as one of my own daughters decided to pass up Hamilton's marketplace. She is a thoughtful, eclectic student who relishes lively, spirited, loud discussions of politics, religion, ethics, and literature. And she decided that Hamilton was no place for such discussions.

And I, for one, am hardly in a position to tell her she's wrong.

I love my college and am grateful for its pivotal role in my own intellectual development, and I have always been willing to make my small contribution toward its continued growth and enrichment. But until I see a revival of truly thoughtful discourse on campus, Hamilton will be a marketplace in which I no longer choose to invest.

Ralph W. Williams, Jr. '71
Somers, Connecticut

The recent eruption of emotion swirling around the now cancelled Kirkland speech SHOULD have been anticipated.

Why was it not? Principally because the academic world is insulated from everyday life and the idealism of student values versus reality. ie: The way we feel it should be and the way it actually is.

Reality is of course relative.

My reality is losing two family members when the towers collapsed and then working "on the pile" in the Rescue and Recovery in order to help find any survivors. That time spent at Ground Zero has left me (at age 50) permanently disabled and unable to work due to respiratory disease brought on by exposures to the toxins at Ground Zero.

Your reality may be different.

However, only a fool would fail to realize that a serious controversy would ensue when a speaker such as Kirkland is invited onto a NY campus a short time after those living nearby have lost children, parents, siblings and friends.

Please keep in mind that Kirkland pays his mortgage by being controversial and pissing people off. The readers of *The Spectator* may very well be quite a bit more idealistic than this jerk for hire.

However, idealism can sometimes confuse issues: Simply because you can do something doesn't mean it's the right thing to do.

Perhaps a thought toward how your decisions affect others might help.

Jimmy Willis

As an academic who teaches courses on Religion and Conflict, I have been following Ward Churchill's work with great interest. While I disagree with Prof. Churchill's specific analysis, his perspective is invaluable, and deserves to be protected as part of the marketplace of ideas at Hamilton College. Rather than improve or address security issues, the College has chosen to cave in to public pressure and cancel altogether the upcoming Project Panel, because of the threats of violent extremists.

Yet the controversy over this project points to the exact reasons as to why such a discussion on the limits of dissent is so vitally necessary today. I urge the College to reconsider and provide the appropriate security to safeguard the Project Panel, even in the midst of any review undertaken.

Christopher W. Chase
Ph.D Fellow
Program in American Studies
Michigan State University

Now that the invitations to both Susan Rosenberg and Ward Churchill have been rescinded, and there is a better than even chance that their careers have been ruined by their invitations to Hamilton College, it is important to reflect on what the incidents say about Hamilton , and the times in which we live. Both are certainly controversial in their views and the expression of them. Both certainly have past history that justifies some of the outrage and protest. But unless a college, and in particular Hamilton College provides a forum for the airing of views on all sides of an issue, who will? There can be little doubt that Churchill's remarks on 9/11 were deeply offensive, but the Constitution does not provide protection only for views and speech we find inoffensive. It protects all speech (with a few exceptions). And while these offensive views did, and probably should, have invited protest, and counter views, it is equally offensive that the

Letters to the editor

college was forced to cancel the events because of threats of violence against both Churchill and President Stweart. Those threats can be seen only one way - as potential acts of domestic terrorism. Terrorism fomented by, encouraged by, and farnkly endorsed by the right wing media.

At the same time, there are those on the Hamilton faculty sho have been more than outspoken in their opinions concering both Churchill and Rosenberg. Again, they have every right to their opinion, but they do not have the right to try to suppress free speech.

Therefore, I challenge Professors Klinkner, Paquette and Goldberg to host a forum, representing both left and right, on the First Amendment, Dissent in wartime, and the McCarthy era. If they are so offended by these controversial speakers, let them explain, using their finest scholarship, why dissent and free speech should not be encouraged, both at Hamilton College and in the wider world. Let them explain why the college, or the wider world, should tolerate death threats against the speakers or against the College adminsitrators.

Peter Lotto
Class of '75

I speak in support of Ward Churchill... his remarks about the 9/11 tragedy may seem harsh, but let's look at the history of "America" from the Native American's point of view: disease, genocide, then broken treaties life in concentration camps called reservations, no suffrage, second class citizenship, the lowest life expectancy....etc, etc... "America" needs to look in the mirror and see itself as illegitimate..

I am deeply saddened that Churchill's free speech was denied by the threats of modern day american terrorists. the history of america reads like a page from the nazi SS playbook, each with it's own "final solution."

Richard Sandler

President Stewart's concellation of Ward Churchill's appearance for "security" reasons is polite but not credible.

Churchill has been a fixture at CU's Boulder campus for roughly fifteen years - CU alumi died in the World Trade Center towers - yet there has been no need for security for him for many years.

On Wednesday, two Hamilton student reporters appeared on Fox News channel "The O'Reilly Factor" swallowing this official bilge whole.

These student-reporters are obviously too close to the administration to have a serious, critical perspective. That's sad.

T J Olson
Boulder, CO

The first amendment protects our right to free speech no matter how unpopular. It does not guarantee, that if we make bad choices in the exercise of our freedom that there will be no consequences.

The issue here is not one of freedom of speech. It is one of administrative judgement.

The decision to invite Mr. Churchill might be compared to inviting a KKK member to speak to a group of African Americans who had lost relatives to lynchings or inviting a convicted sex offender to speak to a support group for women recovering from sexual assults.

The people responsible for this unbelievable lapse of common sense should not be trusted with any responsibility at Hamilton College let alone that of running the administration.

Kevin Hale

The current events at Hamilton are extremely troubling to me as an Alumni. In addition, the President's recent cancellation of the Churchill forum is equally troubling.

Citing safety concerns, the event has been cancelled. How about standing up and saying "Yet again, we have made a major error in judgement."

Supporting free speech, does not have to be mutually exclusive with supporting rational thought.

In Hamilton's recent history, we have had a President disgraced due to plagarism (received a wonderful package), a felon hired, and now an individual who's opinions are so far out there, no rationale person could take them seriously. Yet, Hamilton College, feels the need to take him seriously. I believe he has a right to speak, but not in a forum that lends credence to his arguements. What next, Klan members invited on Campus? How about those folks who believe the Holocaust never existed? Creationists anyone(plenty of people actually believe this one)?

Why is no one being fired over this? Instead, we get mealy-mouthed excuses about how alumni and public response has influenced the decision (basically trying to say, "Sorry, we would do it but we are slaves to our alumni."). This attitude is extremely condescending.

I challenge the administration to stand-up and take action. Forming a toothless committee is not going to solve anything. Instead, we divert responsibility to many without addressing the problem with a few.

It appears as an outsider, that one of your tenured faculty, has made some serious errors in judgement. Take action, and remove the problem permanently.

To The Board of Trustees, "who is watching the store?" Why are your managers not managing?

Ryan Mc Neal '98

Dear Spectator Readers,

I address this letter especially to alumni, alumnae, and others who have been long-term friends of Hamilton College. You are undoubtedly aware that the writer of a piece for the January 28 Wall Street Journal, and Bill O'Reilly, on his January 29 program, urged you not to continue to support the College financially should Ward Churchill be permitted to speak here on February 3.

Before you act on this advice, I hope you will consider this. If you want to punish the students engaged in scientific research with their professors here, then you should by all means withdraw your support. This is what Bill wants you to do.

If you want to punish the students and faculty working in inadequate art studios, gallery, and dance and theater spaces but who are planning for better facilities, then you must not write those checks. The unidentified writer of the Wall Street Journal piece apparently does not care about these students and their faculty; he needs to make a point.

If you want to send a message to the students on our top-ranked basketball team, to their coaches, and to their fellow athletes and coaches at Hamilton, then hang up the phone the next time someone from Hamilton calls you. Bill and the Wall Street Journal writer are asking you to do this.

If you want to punish those promising students whose hard-working parents cannot quite come up with the funds to make the Hamilton College experience affordable, then you should run, not walk, away from any opportunity to contribute to a fund for scholarships here. Bill will never know these students, and neither will we.

It will be February 4 or later when you read this letter. Either Ward Churchill will have spoken here, or he will not. In either case, today and every subsequent day there will be students, professors, administrators, and staff here who will be continuing to make the very best they can of their time at Hamilton. Bill and the unidentified writer will have moved on to fry other fish. But we'll still be here.

Samuel Pellman
Professor of Music

To the Editor:

Most of you who are reading this on the Hill cannot begin to grasp the damage that the Rosenberg and now the Churchill controversies have done to Hamilton's national reputation. However, as a graduate (1976) and long-time enthusiastic supporter of the college, I am extraordinarily dismayed by the enormous and appalling lack of judgment displayed by the individuals involved in arranging to bring these two individuals to Hamilton. Particularly in the case of Churchill, I cannot remotely conceive of any contribution he can make toward enriching a liberal arts education of the kind offered by Hamilton. I find it embarrassing and am ashamed that he should be provided with the prestige of Hamilton College as a platform for his despicable views.

Suncerely yours,
Steven G. Brooks '76

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Letters to the editor (continued)

President Stewart:

I am disappointed by your decision not to rescind the speaking invitation to Ward Churchill. Further, I must take issue with your message posted on the college website regarding the matter. The invitation to Mr. Churchill was extended last summer, long after the publication of his views on September 11. Your statement that the article "came to light" after the extension of the invitation therefore speaks either to extreme sloppiness and/or irresponsibility on the part of those responsible for vetting invitees, or, more troubling, that those responsible for the invitation were aware of the article and extended the invitation anyway.

I find it difficult to believe that there exist no speakers of authority on the topic of "prisons and Native American rights" who could speak to the college community free of the taint that Mr. Churchill's published remarks have brought to the publicity surrounding the event and to the reputation of the college.

Further, I find your comments regarding the free speach issues involved both disingenuous and demeaning to the concept itself. If, as you state, Mr. Churchill's views were not known to those responsible at the time the invitation was made, the mistake should have been admitted and the offer rescinded. The right to one's views and their expression conveys with it neither the right to be given a platform for those views nor the obligation of an institution such as the college to provide one. Were Mr. Churchill the only competent living authority on the subject which on which he is ostensibly to speak, an argument might be made for providing him a platform regardless of his published opinions on other subjects. This is not the case. What we have then is a Hamilton too embarassed, timid or perhaps arrogant to admit its mistake, that chooses instead to hide behind the phrase "free speech," to the detriment of the college and the concept of free speech itself.

Where will we be when a true tie comes to defend free speech, if through our actions and our cowering behind the mantra in order to hide our own shortcomings, we erode the concept so much in the public perception that, as with the boy who cried wolf, there will be no one to come to the defense of free speech when the need arises?

While the insensitivity shown by the college's decision to those alumni and friends of the college who perished September 11, as well as those directly impacted by the tragedy, is, quite frankly, an indignity without equal in my 25 years' association with the college, it is nonetheless secondary to that done free speech by your weak rationalization of a bad decision, poorly made. The first amendment prohibits Congress from making laws abridging the freedom of speech. Our obligations as citizens to foster the concept and practice of free speech are not fulfilled when when we erroneously clothe our base actions in its mantle.

Tyson Arnedt '84

To Whom It May Concern:

As the former director of a humanitarian agency in Rwanda following the 1994 genocide I am appalled at the insensitivity to victims of 9/11 and to terrorism at large shown by members of your faculty. You have an obligation to not subvert the young minds your constituency sends to your institution for higher education. The recent decisions by Rabinowitz regarding hiring Rosenberg and inviting Churchill to speak to your students are indicative of a personal political agenda out of touch with society.

Rabinowitz should be sanctioned and the Kirkland project terminated! We will be watching to see if appropriate disciplinary actions result from the review of this matter announced by President Stewart. The eyes and ears of America are on you!

Dr. David Peters

Write for Insights & Ideas!!!

E-mail Brit (bchase) or Whitney (wkimmel) for the chance of a lifetime

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1 Item	6.75	9.95
2 Items	7.50	10.95
3 Items	7.75	11.95
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Features

Adler 2005: "Building a community of respect"

by Kristy Hague '05
FEATURES WRITER

On Friday, February 11, in the Annex, the Adler Conference will begin "Building a Community of Respect," a campus-wide discussion of issues of respect at Hamilton.

Started in 1966 as the Higby Conference and renamed the Adler Conference in 1970, the forum has a 39 year old tradition of addressing important issues in the Hamilton community. Welcoming all members of the campus including faculty, staff, administration, and students, the Adler provides everyone with an opportunity to enter a candid discussion about campus issues. With such previous topics as alcohol, diversity, and social life on campus, this year the Adler Conference will focus on the ways in which the campus can "build a community of respect at Hamilton," said organizer, Anthony Ng '05.

Originally generated by members of the Kirkland Project's planning board, the idea for this year's Adler emerged from discussion of class and community. The student organizers, Thomas Acampora '05 and Ng serve on the Kirkland Project's planning committee. During discussions about the Kirkland Project, members thought a conference about community and respect would compliment the Kirkland Project's focus on class and community. Organizers approached Student Assembly with their idea and the assembly overwhelmingly approved the topic.

Organizers want to address the ways in which Hamilton community members communicate with each other. The forum seeks not just to address the community's respect for each other in terms of positions, but as multi-faceted people. Recent events with Susan Rosenberg and Ward Churchill conversations have exposed a lack of mutual respect among campus factions. With such divided opinions among the members of this community, "we need to use a more respectful tone on this campus," noted Ng.

> Recent events with Susan Rosenberg and Ward Churchill conversations have exposed a lack of mutual respect among campus factions.
> **'We need to use a more respectful tone on this campus.'**

The conference will begin at noon in the Annex with a catered lunch. During this lunch, participants will discuss their definitions of community and respect. After lunch, participants will be broken down into groups related to their identity and role in the community (like student, faculty, etc). During these group sessions, participants will consider issues of respect within groups and between groups on campus. After a break, conference participants will join different groups of mixed population and continue the previous discussion. Later, group facilitators will return to the Events Barn and share their groups' conversations.

Acampora and Ng will write up a report, and present the conference's suggestions on how to address issues of respect on campus. They will then submit the report to President Stewart and Student Assembly in order to pass on the recommendations.

Unlike past Adler Conferences that have focused primarily upon student opinions, this year's organizers have made a consistent effort to reach out to every member of the community for their input. "We wanted this conference to speak for many voices," noted Ng when asked about his goals for the Adler. Thus far, the conference has confirmed reservations from members of Residential Life, the Kirkland Project, Maintenance and Operations, and leaders of varying student organizations.

"I think [the Adler Conference] is a great opportunity for members of the community to share concerns and ideas," said Dean Nancy Thompson, the Acting Dean of Students. "It's really the one event of the year where the stated purpose is to invite the entire campus... Hamilton does not have many discussions like that," noted Acampora, "the participant in Adler is not just acting in their role...we get to see them in a different context."

Want to join the conversation on community wide respect? There is still time to reserve a spot. Email ang@hamilton.edu or tacampor@hamilton.edu to confirm a spot in the discussion.

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Kristen Nielsen '06 portrays Tessa in Hamilton's production of "The Gondoliers." The show opens on Friday, February 4, at 8:00 p.m. in Wellin Hall and will run for three performances.

Hamilton College Choir to perform "The Gondoliers"

by Emily Lemanczyk '05
FEATURES EDITOR
Alison Kerbel '05
COPY EDITOR

The Hamilton College Choir will perform "The Gondoliers," also known as "The King of Barataria" this weekend in Wellin Hall.

This 19th century musical will be performed on Friday, February 4 at 8:00 PM, Saturday, February 5 at 8:00 PM and on Sunday, February 6 at 2:00 PM. Admission is $3 for Hamilton students, $5 for seniors, and $7 for the general public.

The musical is directed by Hamilton College Choir director, G. Roberts Kolb. Hamilton College Professor of Dance Leslie Norton choreographed the musical.

Hamilton College Choir members act as the stage crew and the cast. In fact, everyone involved int the musical, other than Leslie North and the orchestra, is a member of the choir.

The musical is a satire of 18th century social classes and royalty.

Two brothers, Marco and Guiseppe, (played by Brian Tilly '05 and Tom Morris '07) are the the best gondoliers in Venice, Italy. They are the favorites of all the ladies, but through a game of blindman's bluff, lucky Tessa (Kristen Nielsen '06) and Gianetta (Sarah Ziegler '05) get chosen by the brothers.

But there's something the girls don't know about their suitors–either Marco or Guiseppe is the King of Barataria, who was kidnapped as a baby by soldiers from the Spanish Inquisition and married in infancy to Casillda (Julie Young '07) the daughter of the Duke of Plaza Toro (Ben Critton '06)!

The plot thickens, as Casillda is actually in love with Luiz (Adam Morris '05), the Duke's faithful but low-born servant. The Duke shows up to find the long-lost king, but no one can tell which brother it is! While the Grand High Inquisitor (Michael Dahmen) goes off to search for the woman who nursed the infant king, Marco and Guiseppe go to Barataria together to jointly rule the kingdom, taking all the gondoliers with them to make up a court of equality.

In Barataria, the gondoliers sit around while Marco and Guiseppe do the chores. The ladies, left on their own back in Venice and bored without their men, borrow a boat and make it to Barataria just in time to hear the nurse reveal the king's true identity.

WHCL: new and improved

by Kate Mayhew '05
FEATURES WRITER

It's 5 p.m. on a Wednesday, and your friend has left you an urgent IM reminding you to tune into his radio show. You sit down at your computer and grimace. Turning the dial of your speakers up to the maximum volume and straining through the thick static, you search to find your friend's voice.

"Hey, Mr. DJ, I didn't request 'Static' by Failing Sound Board," you think to yourself. If only the Media Board would put up the money for a brand new sound board, you think, oblivious to anything outside the dire nature of the situation plaguing WHCL and its listeners. Imagine the improved sound quality, you think. And with a new sound board, it would be possible for future generations of WHCL crew to add on to the already improved equipment. You continue to muse tirelessly, as your friend attempts to play a song, but sends what you're sure would be a swear-word, if it wasn't muffled by static, into dead air, explaining to listeners that he's experiencing "technical difficulties."

If you, yourself, have experienced a similar case of WHCL empathy, may your fears be assuaged and your ears no longer assailed. WHCL, Hamilton College's own loud and proud radio station, has recently been infused with all the power and sound clarity of a brand new sound board. And with the new line-up of Hamilton College DJs taking the microphone beginning this past week on January 31, the new sound board was the perfect addition to the WHCL family.

According to Senior Blake Erb, WHCL's Business Manager, the station's old sound board was in sore need of replacement. Said Erb, "Every semester WHCL engineers and management were forced to deal with a variety of both minor and major equipment failures. These stemmed from something as minor as light-bulbs going out on the sound board to the sound board temporarily failing."

And yes, even in the case of a college radio station's sound board, size does matter. The new sound board is much larger than the previous board and provides the opportunity for future improvements as well. Erb claims that, "Future improvements could include the ability to put multiple callers on air at the same time, an automation system to keep WHCL on the air when students can't do shows, and the addition of better sounding inputs: CD players, mini-disc players, etc."

And what's a new sound board running these days, you ask? Discretion prohibits this writer from revealing the numbers, however, Erb revealed that, "the school was very gracious in providing WHCL with these funds." In fact, it was only after Erb and two of the radio station's previous General Managers placed multiple requests for a special budget that the college finally granted them a special fund to be used solely for the purpose of purchasing a digital sound board.

PHOTO BY KATIE CHILDS '08

Josh Cheung '08 and Emily Pallin '08 have found the new switchboard to be "wonderful!"

The previous sound board, approximately 15 to 20 years old, was sporting quite the handicap, with "escalating equipment failures, poor sound quality and the need to improve and expand the station" says Erb. Had the new equipment not been procured as soon as it was, the previous system was at risk for permanent paralysis -- an occurrence that would have crippled WHCL. Thus, the replacement of the old system (pretty much on its last dial) was just in time.

"A nice feature of the new sound board is the working microphones. Occasionally they would just blow on the old system. Now, there's no fear that you're talking into space."
- Jason Ruback '05

As a result, the DJs are treated to one digitally happening time -- a perk they were denied with the old sound board. Seniors Jason Ruback and Colin Mahoney, who team up to host the ever-informative Sex Matters on WHCL each week, claim that there is a substantial difference in the two systems, primarily with respect to dependability. The previous sound board, certainly never given the trusty nickname of "Old Reliable" was often known to give way during broadcasts. In particular, Ruback claims that the microphones, clearly a fairly unimportant part of radio broadcasting, as I'm sure the readers will agree, would often die. "A nice feature of the new sound board is the working microphones. Occasionally they would just blow on the old system. Now, there's no fear that you're talking into space," says Ruback. Mahoney had his own reasons for appreciating the new sound board: "The lights are cool...cooler than the old board. That board just had a dials, but this one has more buttons."

And how do the listeners feel? Junior Erik Goulding, a regular listener of WHCL, claims that the sound quality has vastly improved. "Usually," Goulding claims, "you can hear everything that is going on the background, (typing on the computer or tapping on the desk) but during this past week's broadcast, I just heard the DJs talking. The quality of each of their voices was the same, whereas in the past, some of the mics did not have the same sound clarity."

And so, for the both the DJs and the listeners of WHCL, the sound board is an important addition to the Hamilton community. The new sound board has, in one fell swoop, managed to touch the lives of all of us on campus. So, the next time you tune into WHCL, and you can finally hear in brilliant clarity and precision, the exact swear word a Hamilton College DJ uses after queuing the wrong track, take that moment to call in, and thank your local sound board. Without this newbie, it's just static.

THIS WEEK IN HAMILTON HISTORY

Faculty debates fate of 'Sophomore Seminar' at first meeting of the year
February 5, 1999

The faculty and administration met in the Dwight Lounge of the Bristol Campus Center Tuesday afternoon to tangle with the logistics and semantics of a new educational initiative: mandatory seminars for sophomores.

The meeting was not as well attended as one might have expected it to be, and except for a few diehard polemicists, the forty who did attend made it clear that there were innumerable other things that they would rather be doing.

Professor Kelly, a lanky man with independently-minded hair, presided over the motley group, calling shots and attempting to keep things parliamentarian. With a bang of the gavel, the discussion began.

Number of students transferring from Hamilton on the rise
February 4, 1994

A recent trend in the number of students transferring from Hamilton College has prompted concern among many top administrators. At the end of spring semester last year, 31 students voluntarily separated themselves from Hamilton in order to attend other colleges and universities. The figure is more than double the number of transferring students from other recent years. An additional 13 students chose to take a leave of absence at the end of the spring semester. This number was slightly lower than in recent years.

According to Associate Dean of Students Rob Hopkins, there is no clear reason for the increased number of departing students this year. In exit interviews, the two most commonly cited reasons for students leaving are discontent with the social life at Hamilton and a desire for a change in environment. Some students, said Hopkins, feel isolated in Hamilton's rural setting.

Hamilton adopts new policy; hires women and minorities
February 8, 1973

Hamilton College has had few women faculty members since it was founded. However, two women have been appointed to the faculty recently, one temporarily and the other permanently.

This upsurge in the percentage of women professors on the Hill was caused by the new guidelines for women and minority hiring that the federal government has established.

These guidelines prohibit discrimination against any people on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex, or national origin. The "Affirmative Action Program" is the name for the program to encourage the hiring of minority groups and women.

Winter's not over, but warmer weather is coming

by Danielle Sclafani '08
FEATURES WRITER

The bitterly cold temperatures of January 21 certainly confirmed the old weatherman's rhyme, "as the days grow longer, the cold grows stronger." With the passing of the winter solstice on December 21 (the shortest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere), the days have since begun to lengthen. And, as the rhyme suggests, during the four weeks that followed the solstice, the daily temperature, on average, decreased. Year after year this pattern repeats itself, thus giving January 21 the title of "the coldest day of the year." 2005 was certainly no exception. According to wktv.com's weather records, January 21, although mostly sunny, experienced high and low temperatures of -3 and -16 degrees Fahrenheit and windchills ranging from -20 to -40 degrees Fahrenheit! In fact, according to wktv.com's records, this year we reached an all-time low for the date January 21. -16 F is the lowest temperature ever recorded for this date (the all-time high was 56 degrees in 1959).

When asked about last week's chilly temps, Ellen Hungate '08 said, "It was absolutely freezing! I didn't know it could get that cold. I didn't want to leave my dorm!" Matt D'Amico '08 echoed her sentiment. "Yeah, it was really cold. Too cold. It was really bad with the windchill. I just wanted to lay in bed and not face the outdoors but I had to go to go to my classes."

One might wonder why December 21, the day with the least amount of sunlight, is not also the coldest day of the year. Well, according to Pennsylvania State Climatologist, Paul Knight, when the wind travels over water bodies it carries some of its warmth or coolness with it, which is why the coldest average day of the year is typically about four or five weeks after the shortest day of the year. Even though we get less sunlight at the end of December than in January, during January the earth and air are losing heat so that January 21 ends up being colder than December 21.

Fortunately, as this past week has proven, after January 21, the average daily temperature typically increases, with fluctuations, until about July 25, which is four weeks after the summer solstice and characteristically the hottest day of the year. After July 25, temperatures will begin to decrease once again. However, there are always exceptions to the rule. On February 9, 1934 thermometers reached an all-time low of -34 F. However, the weathermen at the WKTV2 News Station are optimistic about the temperatures for the month of February. They are fairly confident that this year the temps will continue to rise as is typical after the 21st of January. Murtaza Ali Jafri '08 said of this week's warmer temperatures, "Thank goodness it is finally not so cold! If it weren't for my down jacket I don't think I would have made it through the past two weeks." Mary Ellen Beaudreau '08 said, "I don't think I've ever been so happy to have an icicle drip on my head!" Indeed, temperatures this week were much warmer than those we have been experiencing. Highs were in the 30s and they should continue to gradually increase. So, don't let the cold get you down: if all goes according to plan, warmer weather should be here to stay!

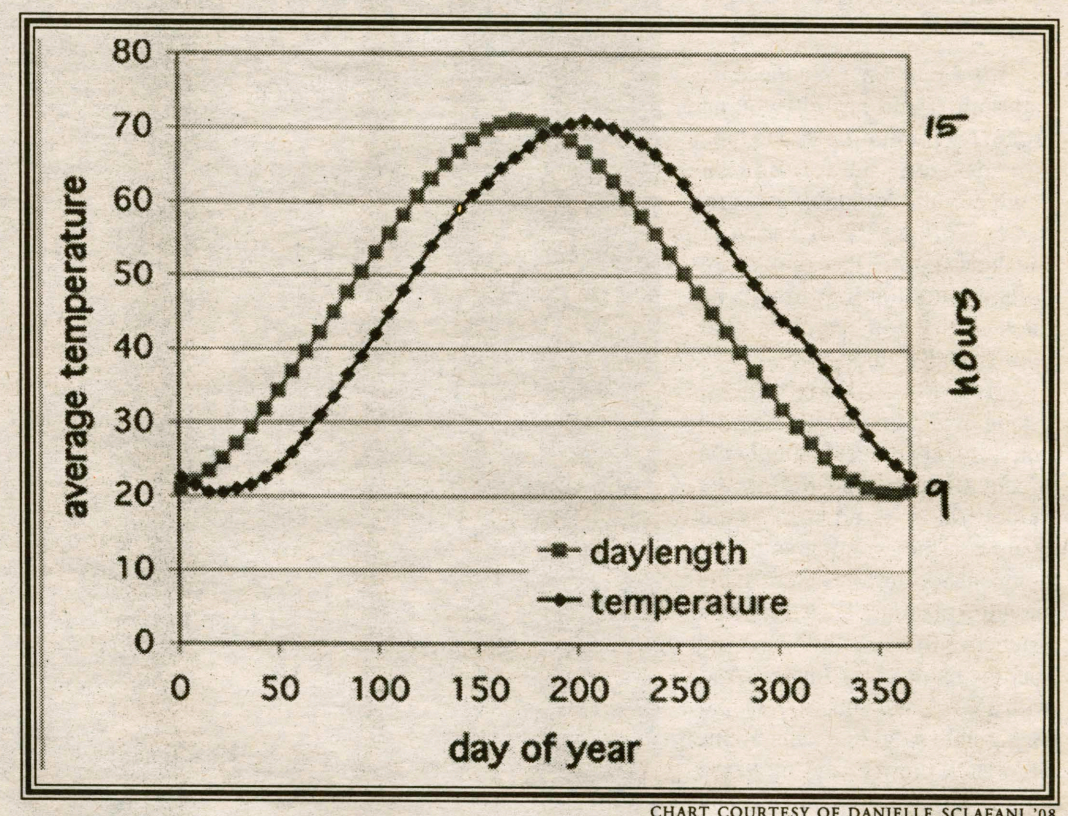

CHART COURTESY OF DANIELLE SCLAFANI '08

Biology Professor Ernest Williams constructed this graph showing temperature fluctuation throughout the year. Observe how the warmest and coldest days of the year occur approximately one month after the summer and winter solstices, respectively. Data from wktv.com.

Recycle mania: week one

by Lucas Thornblade '07
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The intercollegiate recycling competition that Hamilton is taking part in began on Monday. This past week marks the beginning of a 10 week competition against 49 other schools to recycle the highest percentage of our waste possible. Recycle mania is a friendly competition intended to foster greater energy and interest in reducing waste across the country among college students. The program is sponsored and organized by the Environmental Protection Agency's Waste Wise program.

Hamilton's goals for this competition are simple. We hope to place as well as possible amongst the schools competing and to raise our current rate from 19.22% to 25%. That means that over then next 10 weeks, students, faculty, and staff will need to recycle 70 tons more than in previous semesters. Director of Recycling Terry Hawkridge and the Recycling Task Force also challenged nearby schools of our size including Amherst, Dartmouth, Dickinson, and Ithaca to compete for the greatest improvement in recycling rate.

This competition comes at an ideal time for Hamilton. This past semester, thanks to much improvement in student attitude around campus, Hamilton recycled far more than it ever has in the past. The momentum we have gained can help us to soar to great success in the competition, set a high standard for future students, and reinforce our school's dedication to resource conservation and the environment.

Updates on Hamilton's progress will be posted in the mail center and in informational emails. For more information, visit the recycling web page at hamilton.edu/college/recycling.

"I do solemnly swear..."

by Paul Bleiberg '06
FEATURES DC CORESPONDENT

...that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." For me, watching the President take this oath was undoubtedly the most significant moment of President Bush's Inauguration.

In Washington on January 20, 2005, it was much colder than normally. That didn't stop hundreds from getting in line to pass through security to reach the standing areas designated on their tickets. It also didn't stop several hundred more people from taking to the streets to protest. For people all over the political spectrum, Inauguration is among the most political events in our country.

On my walk to the security checkpoint for the Gold Standing Area, I saw signs that said "51% is not a mandate" and "Bush is to Christianity what Bin Laden is to Islam." The most attention-grabbing sign that I saw read "Bush took the Christ out of Christianity." The throngs of people eager to watch the ceremony changed their routes several times in order to avoid the protesters, who consolidated near the Frances Perkins Department of Labor building. I wasn't surprised to see protesters, but I was surprised at just how many I passed.

The sight of the protesters is a concrete symbol of the freedoms that we have in the United States. In his address, President Bush spoke of advancing freedom and justice throughout the world. From where I was standing, Bush was a small, distant dot while he spoke. Watching the President speak was an unforgettable experience, but not as memorable as watching him take the oath of office.

There is something special about standing with thousands of your fellow citizens and watching your leader vow to uphold everything that your country stands for. When I listened to the oath, I was reminded that this oath is over 200 years old. I thought about everything that our country has endured since those words were first penned. Standing on that snow-covered lawn, I felt proud of our past and hopeful about our future.

The walk back to the Metro was the most crowded walk I have ever taken. For a few minutes, I couldn't move at all, since I was surrounded by lots of people on all sides. When I finally made it back to the Metro at Judiciary Square, I waited ten minutes before making it down the escalator, since there were too many people to fit on the few trains that were coming through. On my ride back, almost everyone had a ticket in his or her hand as a souvenir.

If there is any event that stirs the emotions of people all across the United States, then that event is the Presidential Inauguration. While I waited in line to reach security, I stood among hundreds of people, all from different states and whose ancestors were from different countries. It is undoubtedly very important that the United States is a "melting pot" of different people. However, it is perhaps equally important to remember that in many ways, the United States is truly indivisible.

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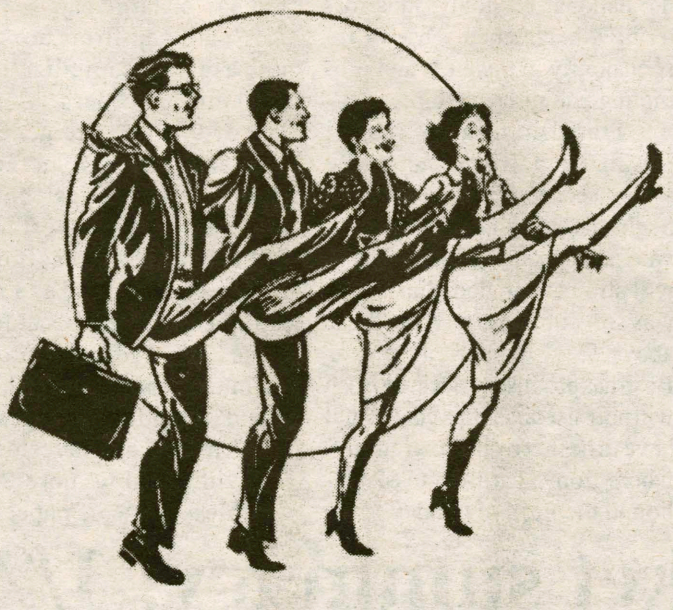

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Business & Economics

The future of Social Security

Part three: Bush's plan

by Tim Foley '06
BUSINESS & ECONOMICS EDITOR

On Wednesday George W. Bush delivered his State of the Union address to a deeply divided nation and congress. As is customary, Bush's fellow Republicans applauded wildly at every opportunity while Democrats remained motionless through much of the gala. However, President Bush encountered both cheers and jeers from the left as he examined the future of Social Security. Not only does the program carry on the legacy of the most influential Democrat in recent memory, many lobbyists and most Democrats would fight to the death, or until they lost their voices, to protect it.

After identifying Social Security's impending financial crunch, Bush quickly fired off remedies proposed in the past, then dove head first into his administration's brain child: the partial privatization of Social Security.

As it stands now, a Social Security tax is collected from workers and their employers. The funds are redistributed to beneficiaries of the program, and any excess capital is conservatively invested into United States Treasuries. Benefits are paid according to an individual's earnings, though low-income citizens receive proportionately more than the nation's wealthy. Every step of the program is controlled and executed by government agencies. Bush's plan would revolutionize the entire process and reinforce his "ownership society" ideals.

Most important for our parents is that every tax payer and current beneficiary above the age of 55 will continue participating in Social Security as it now stands. The rest of us would be presented with an option if Bush's plan goes into effect: either continue paying the full Social Security tax and receiving full benefits or place some of the tax into a private account.

Currently, about 12 percent of your income will be taxed in the name of Social Security. If Bush's plan comes to fruition and you choose to continue paying the full tax, you can expect a modest decrease in benefits. Social Security payments are presently gauged to income rates, which generally rise faster than inflation or consumer price indices. For those of you who don't know, a consumer price index is the estimated cost of a collection of goods which consumers regularly purchase, such as food, transportation, housing and entertainment. Bush's plan would likely correlate Social Security payments either to inflation or a price index, thus decreasing payments to beneficiaries.

However, Bush wants to allow workers to divert one third of this tax (about four percent of total income) into a private investment account managed by a professional at, for example, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley or NBT. In this private account, you could choose to invest in stocks, bonds or a combination of both. The maximum annual contribution into a private account would be about $1,000. Upon retirement, money in your account would be paid out to you in a series of periodic checks. Because you would be donating less to Social Security, your Social Security benefits would fall dramatically. However, the main idea is that the sum of the small Social Security payments and your investment account payments would be greater than if you had chosen to pay the full Social Security tax and received full benefits.

In explaining his plan, the President pointed to the many positive aspects of private accounts. He claims money deposited into our financial markets would grow at a faster rate than if it were invested into Treasury bonds as is the current practice of the Social Security trust fund. In fact, his claim is supported by a Congressional Budget Office study which suggests that, after adjusting for inflation and fees, an investment account evenly split between stocks and bonds would grow at a rate of 4.9 percent compared to 3.5 percent earned by Treasury bonds. However, I must note that Treasury bonds are currently offering extremely low yields as a result of relatively loose monetary policy. Bush also declared that the private accounts will be transferable to children and grandchildren. In addition, he vowed that benefits would still be more generous to low-income retirees.

While the main objective of the plan is obviously to ease pressure on the government, Bush also sees his program, as he often does, through a moral lens. As an ardent Republican, he believes in a small government, which he confirmed in his State of the Union by declaring the upcoming elimination of 150 government programs. Privatizing Social Security further lessens the government's role in our lives. He also advocates an "ownership society." Bush contends that if Social Security is privatized, people will have a larger stake in the national economy, thus fostering a heightened sense of responsibility in business and promoting entrepreneurship.

Transitioning to partial privatization would not come without costs. If people under 55 begin diverting money into private accounts, the government will still have to come up with a way to continue paying those above 55 at the current rate, as Bush has promised. Because Bush will not raise taxes, this goal would have to be met by borrowing anywhere from $1 trillion to $2 trillion in the form of bonds.

Finance 101... so you can understand the *Wall Street Journal*

This week: market capitalization

by Tim Foley '06
BUSINESS & ECONOMICS EDITOR

Just like people, companies come in all sizes. Private firms like the corner pizza shop can employ just two or three people, while huge multinational corporations have thousands and thousands of workers. However unlike people, firms are not measured by height. Rather, publicly traded companies, that is companies whose stock is traded in the stock market, are measured by capitalization.

A firm's market capitalization is measured by multiplying the value of one share of its stock by the number of shares traded in the market. For example, if a company's stock is worth $10 and it has one million shares outstanding, its market capitalization is $10,000,000. To assist everyone in the market, a classification system has developed to identify a company's size. All publicly traded firms are classified as either small cap, mid cap or large cap.

Small cap firms are those with a market capitalization of $500 million or less. Companies of this size are generally new and possess incredible growth possibilities, but are also very risky investments. At one time, Microsoft could have been classified as a small cap stock before it became one of the largest software producers in the world. Though they sound tempting, many small cap firms fail and investors are left with nothing more than a worthless piece of paper.

Mid cap companies are those with a market capitalization of less than $5 billion. Mid cap firms are generally regional and do not have national or international name brand recognition, but are large enough to be very stable. Mid caps also have growth potential, though not as much as small caps. Many mid caps tend to be firms which are content with their size and do not wish to become huge corporations.

Finally, large caps are companies whose market capitalization exceeds $5 billion. Also known as "blue chips," these companies share the same classification as name brands such as Coca-Cola, Pfizer and General Electric. Large cap investors are not looking for growth, but for stability and possibly income in the form of a dividend. Once large cap status is attained, it is generally kept. Any large cap company would need to experience serious problems to fall back down to a mid or small cap. More often than not, if a large cap firm is in serious trouble for any reason, it will either go into bankruptcy or will be gobbled up by another huge corporation.

Many mutual funds will invest exclusively in small, mid or large cap companies. Small cap mutual funds offer a large growth potential, but are also inherently very risky. Mid cap mutual funds are more secure, but offer less growth potential. Large cap funds are excellent for investors seeking safety and income from dividends.

Financial market summary: 1/28 - 2/3

by David Kelland '05
BUSINESS & ECONOMICS COLUMNIST

In my first two columns this year, I noted that the U.S. stock market would likely test its high before any bear market could begin. That test began this week as the S&P 500 rallied (1174) 1.4 percent to close on Thursday at 1190. The run up brought the index of large capitalization stocks above its 50-day moving average, a significant technical level. In spite of the broad market strength, the more technology weighted indices produced an uninspiring performance. The NASDAQ Composite barely eked out a gain for the week, while the NASDAQ-100 declined, partly on poor results from Amazon.com. Google delivered the best news that the internet sector has heard in a month, reporting record profits and driving their shares to record highs.

The Federal Open Market Committee raised the federal funds rate 25 basis points to 2.5 percent on Wednesday, reflecting the committee's confidence in the economic recovery. In the statement, the FOMC said that rates will be raised over 2005 "at a pace that is likely to be measured." Interest rates remain well below their midsummer highs despite concerns among market participants about the U.S. budget and trade deficits.

The 30-year Treasury bond now yields 4.57 percent, while the 10-year and 5-year notes are yielding 4.16 percent and 3.75 percent, respectively.

I mentioned "futures contracts" last week and in order to avoid confusion, I want to briefly introduce futures. A futures contract is simply a contract between two parties. The buyer of the contract agrees to purchase a given asset, at a given price, at a future date (hence the term "future"). That asset can be anything from a U.S. Treasury note, to a barrel of oil, to the S&P 500. The seller of the contract agrees to sell the given asset, at the given price, at the future date. Most futures in the United States are traded on the Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) or on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME). In the 1860's, the CBOT was formed and the trading of agricultural futures on assets like corn and wheat began. These contracts allowed farmers to manage their risk. If a farmer plants some wheat in the beginning of the season, he does not know what the price of wheat will be at harvest. If the price of wheat declines enough during the growing season, the farmer might be in financial trouble come harvest time. By selling a futures contract at the beginning of the season, the farmer has a hedge, much like an insurance policy. If the price of wheat rises over the course of the season, the farmer's crop will be worth more money, but he will lose money on his short position in the futures market. If the price of wheat declines, the farmer's crop will not fetch as much money, but the farmer's short position in the futures market will have gained, offsetting the loss. Since the farmer has taken the price risk of his commodity out of his enterprise, he can focus on farming instead of on the price of wheat. . Almost all major farming businesses today use this technique to manage their risk. I am oversimplifying the matter, but I think I have captured the essence.

Arts & Entertainment

24 Hour Film Contest a rip-roaring success

by Sarah Wissel '08
A&E WRITER

Twenty-four hours of drama, quite a bit of comedy, some moments of near-horror, and a severe lack of sleep marked the first ever Hamilton 24 Hour Film Competition presented by the Film Guild.

Eleven pre-registered teams of three to five students met in the Annex Friday evening to review the rules and borrow the necessary video equipment to compete for a $100 FYE gift certificate. After reviewing the rules, specifically that the groups would have no more than twenty four hours to create an original script and film and edit their short movie, the groups in turn sent representatives to draw a genre from a hat. To minimize the possibility of cheating by using an old script, the Film Guild demanded that each group select a genre at random and employ the line "There are only two things I hate..."

At 11:30 Friday night, the meeting concluded and the teams were free to begin filming. The teams had a range of filmmaking experience. Some, like Team Ramrod, admitted that "No one has any idea what we're doing; we're just trying to do a good job," while others were familiar with the elements of filming and editing, such as Team Sweet Monkey, the members of which are also responsible for the streaking video. Team member Alex Sweet '05 even watched short films from many different genres to help prepare for the competition.

The film guild expected that editing would pose the greatest challenge for the groups, and arranged to have help available in the basement of Burke Library on Saturday should the teams need it. The teams, however, predicted other difficulties. Team Minor's initial worries were that they would experience challenges working cooperatively and brainstorming ideas that aren't "too crazy." Upon receiving their genre, martial arts, Team Sweet Monkey felt that props and costumes would pose the greatest difficulty. Sleep deprivation would eventually take its toll on all the groups.

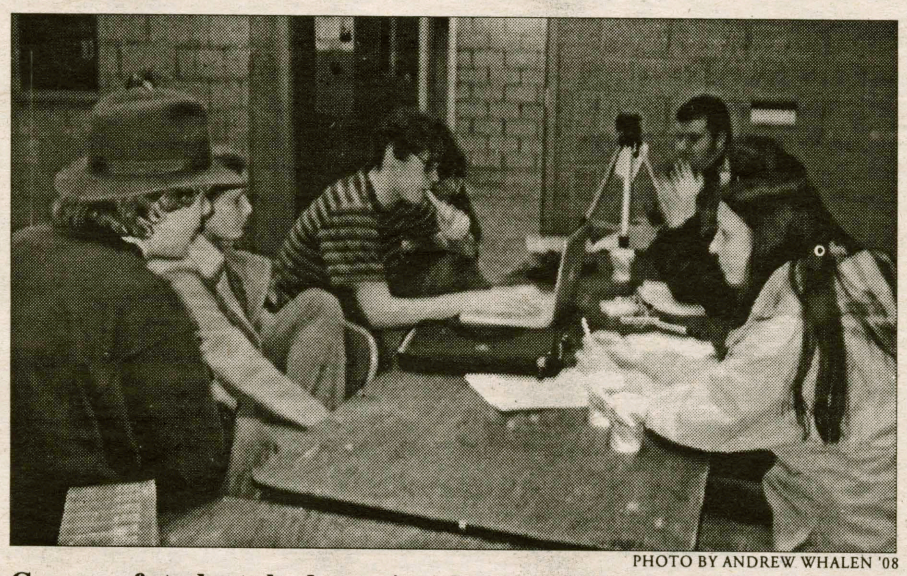


PHOTO BY ANDREW WHALEN '08

Groups of students had to write, shoot, and edit a movie in 24 hours. By the time hour 23 rolled around, this group had just finished their film. It's called *Star Wars Episode III*, and will be released in May.

Justin Thompson-Tucker '05 of Team Dark Horizon Entertainment even found that Saturday's Internet malfunction disrupted his group's plans.

Over the following 24 hours, the groups discovered a lot about themselves. "We're more creative and funny than we thought," said Zach Reich '08 of Team Ramrod. Grace Dobbyn '08 and Team Black Dog discovered that there's "A lot more to film making than I thought." Jack Prior '08 of Team Minor, who had originally speculated that their film would be completed in several hours, echoed this sentiment.

Despite the challenges and stress, the day was not without humor. Kate Naughton '08 of Team Taddei forgot the script at one point and ran across campus to retrieve it, amusing her teammates.

An estimated 250 people arrived in the Annex at midnight on Saturday to view the films, exciting the Film Guild who had anticipated only 100. Nine of the original eleven teams returned with their films, many burned to DVD within the previous hour. The films were screened before the audience and two judges, professors Pat O'Neill and Cheryl Morgan. The judges then selected a winner based on criteria given to them by the Film Guild. The audience also voted on a People's Choice winner.

The Film Guild, audience, and adjudicators were all impressed with the outcomes.

"We were completely awestruck," commented Professor O'Neill. "It's a tribute to what digital technology can do [that] students can really make a film in 24 hours."

While the judges felt that all nine films were "brilliant parodies of their genres" and illustrated sophisticated camera and editing techniques, the final decision came down to the scripts. The choice was contingent on "a script that holds with the acting and dialogue," said Professor O'Neill. The final decision was made between three, from which the martial arts film "Let's Keep it Briefcase," a Sweet Monkey Production, was chosen.

The 250 members of the audience, including those who participated in the contest, are all eager for there to be another competition. While the Film Guild is similarly enthusiastic, they doubt that it will be possible until next year due to funding constrictions, and encourage students to contact their Student Assembly representatives.

For those who missed the Saturday presentation, the nine films will be played again during Feb Fest as well as on the Hamilton movie channel, channel 54.

24 hours of blood, sweat, and film: the movies made

by Andrew Whalen '08
A&E WRITER

The Film Production Guild's 24 Filmmaking Contest of the past weekend was a tremendous success. Saturday night, after teams sleepwalked their finished movies in, more than 250 people came by the Annex to watch the nine movies completed. Of course, many more of you did not get a chance to see the short films. Don't worry, they will be shown again. However, until that day comes, here's a look at what you missed:

Satire - An ailing Beirut team strive to make it back to the top. There's some other junk in there about the Soviets, but really, this movie is all about drinking and Rocky-style training montages. Put together by Spencer Soloway, Nate Root, and Garrett Butler, this film set an appropriate tone for the whole evening (no, not drunken debauchery).

Melodrama - This film, simply entitled WTF?, details the complex interactions of a bunch of characters, with no sense of sanity to get in the way of pure cinematic gold. Comasexuals, car saboteurs, ice-climbers, lustful poisoners, and jealous voyeurs all come together in perhaps the most professional film of the contest. Digital explosions, stock footage, and a missing orchestral score are just some of the features WTF? boasts. Put together by Whit Rothe, Justin Thompson-Tucker, Matty K, Jackie Kook, Hilary King, Kristofer Rios, Zachary Zinn, and Jubin Kwon, WTF? Introduced the concept of an ensemble cast to the 24 Hour Filmmaking Contest.

Action - This action-thriller contained the simple tale of one man versus one ninja. From these simple roots Pete, Grace Dobbyn, Jack, and Allya Robbins developed a complex moral tale full of plastic swords, library sneakery, and two people running crazily through a packed Commons. More a comic send-up of the action movie, this entry included some very funny humor. In addition, it is the only way to see Peter Weitzemann wearing a dress.

Romantic Comedy - Seemingly combining romantic comedy with avante-garde, the short film "The Aztec" entertwines two romantic tales into one super-narrative. Brought to you by Roman Bodnar, Sushrut Acharya and Sam Hutchinson. Simultaneously chronicling the romance between a magician and a client and another romance between a rich socialite and a woodsman, "The Aztec" was one of the funnier and trippier entries received. It was perhaps most notable for its use of the required line when one character yells to his girlfriend, "There are only two things I hate, you and women!" Oh, and in case you weren't sold, it has Jesus in it.

PHOTO BY ANDREW WHALEN '08

A packed audience in the Annex eagerly anticipated the movies and were not disappointed. Word.

Martial Arts - The winner of the coveted Judge's Pick, "Let's Keep It Briefcase" contains foreign languages, vampires, and Matrix-style action. It even has a sweet car crash. The movie is shamelessly obtuse, reveling in imagery over a sensical plot. However, it does so in a powerful and uniquely disturbing way. A worthy winner, "Let's Keep It Briefcase" was the brainchild of Sean Tice, Alexandra Sweet, and Craig Moores.

Crime - This film, entitled "Trent Hart and the Adventure of the Missing Pipe" presents a complex crime narrative that serves as a good backdrop for gritty, black-and-white noir stylings and typical detective hijinks. This crime film is most notable for showing William Welles fall off the bridge. Of course, without Ali Fisher, Andrew Whalen, Erica Fultz, Adam Hobson, Halley Allaire, and Jess Yau, there would have been no one there to laugh at him.

Sci-Fi - Ryan Morris' Ramrod team worked exceptionally well within the constraints of the event in order to pull off a unique and hilarious piece of science fiction. A suspiciously shower-like time machine dumps an alien spore-spreader back in the past. Instead of domination, he finds himself on the path to...love. Also it has that great music from Life Aquatic, what more could one want in a short film?

Musical - Alex Taddei, Katya Hottenstein and Katie Naughton put together "Whiz," the rousing tale of a can of cheese whiz desperately striving to make it to Commons. The movie is unique in the way it is shot and the use of title cards to present poetic accompaniment. Particularly the sphinx guarding the way at the crosswalk. Of course, I can't ruin what happens from there.

Slapstick - The last entry of the show, Team Minor (Nathan Vandergrift, Jack Prior, Chris Jorgenson, Mike Viervos, Ben Stevens and Dan Bond) put together a series of reality moments in the life of Minor dwellers in order to form an impression of the whole. After 20 minutes of butt jokes, pizza ordering and snowball fights, the movie ended, much to the relief of everyone. There's just no positive light to put on this one.

So, there you have it, the line-up to the 24 Hour Filmmaking Contest. Please remember to enter next time around. Also, as a final announcement, from votes tabulated the night of the event, we have a People's Choice Winner. The award, accolades, respect, devotion, and $50 to FYE all go to Team Fresh Bread with "The Aztec." Congrats! So, there's a synopsis, now get out there and start making some films, if you dare. Better to start now, before the next opportunity to film for 24 Hours comes up.

The real Hamilton terrorism: the anti-work device

by Katey Healy-Wurzburg '05
A&E WRITER

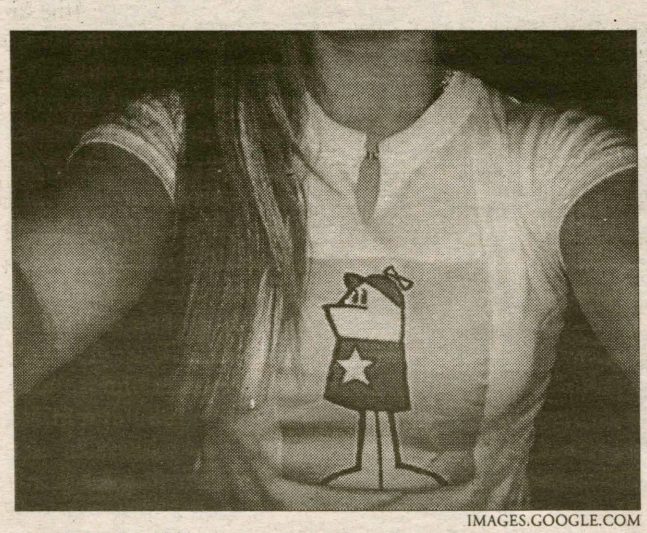
Well, I am a senior this year... but what exactly does this 'senior' distinction mean, really? Not as much as you might think, faithful reader. Being a senior simply means that I have amassed a faaar longer list of things and activities to engage in order to avoid my homework and other commitments. I have collected so many of these anti-work devices that I will be doing a several week series highlighting my favorites. This week's focus will be the Internet—glorious, glorious Internet.

We all know how much we love it. How much fun was Saturday morning last week when we were without the off-campus network? That's right, no fun at all. Now the Internet is an interesting place. For those people who attempt to claim that they are actually cool and composed and well, not dorks, the Internet is a slippery slope of true nerditude-ification. You can find out if you are a nerd if you scope out any of the following sites: Wikipedia, or any site that is reasonable and promotes learning on a regular basis, and pretty much all special interest message-boarding. Bands, celebrity web-sites, TV-networks' messageboards (VH1, Discovery) and lifestyle-type boards all count. Hey, I do it myself. But then again, I am fully aware of my own nerd status. You are also automatically a nerd if you know what any of the following mean: PWNED!!!, n00b, 0_o, or ssia.

n00b.

Blogging is, in my opinion, one of the few Internet activities that actually fall across the dork, thinks-they-are-cool, and the in-fact-cool-and-lucid populations. Fun to write, fun to read, and great to stalk with, Blogs are a recent revelation with little historical precedence. They are also very good at tracking lifestyle and public interest trends. Oh yeah, there are companies devoted to mining your blog for the elusive 18-24 year old marketing desires. A bit scary, but they are still fun. There are also a plethora to choose from, including blogger.com, livejournal.com and a variety of user-directed and designed sites.

I also enjoy shopping via the web. I usually shop for electronics... 'cause if you hadn't noticed yet, I am a nerd. Clothes shopping is always fun though, I never try stuff on anyway. I don't know, I hate untying my shoes, and then hating the way I look. It's not like I can't return the stuff later. And Sangertown is *such* a hike. Anywho, I digress. Shopping, yeah. I recently found out from some of my more properly girly friends that you can buy purses and shoes and probably babies and kittens, I don't know, I don't hold with such wish-wash. Although I do often browse for pretty jewelry online.



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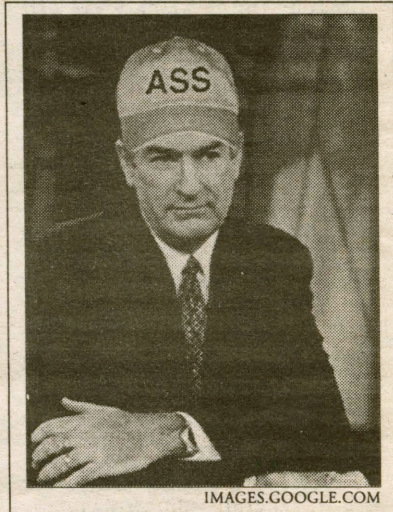
Websites like ratemyboobs.com, I mean, homestarrunner.com are great procrastination tools. Check them out, I mean, check out that site.

Sparkly thing make me happy! I feel happy! I feeel happyyy!! >thud< Whoa, sorry Monty Python flashback. But that leads me to my next awesome thing about the Internet-comedy! Comedy galore!

For me, websites like homestarrunner.com, Maddox.xmission.com, collegehumor.com, and especially observationalhumor.com can leave me in stitches for hours on end. I'm serious, hours on end. Ask Whit, he's the one who got me addicted to Homestar! It's twue! Sewiously though, comedy sites are the most fun, and often enter you and your friends' vocabulary of daily interaction. There is a fair collection of censored TV clips or short cartoons floating out there in the flotsam and jetsam of the World Wide Web, just waiting for your fingers to search for them.

Hmm... well I guess that is about it, that's it for this week! See you guys next Friday with another addition... Oh snap. You know, I bet you all lost faith in me. I bet you thought I was gonna forget, or miss it. PSYCH! (Is that even how you spell that? I certainly don't know) The youngest, but quite possibly most addictive, website phenomena this year: thefacebook.com. It would be cool if it was just pictures of all your friends and schoolmates. Paper facebooks proved the staying power of such a stalker-ish device long ago. But no, the appeal of thefacebook.com is much more than that. Thefacebook.com can be a forum for your ideas, a way to advertise your recent single status, or even create excessive and superfluous friend groups! You can even create groups about the facebook.com, or about the excessive and superfluous facebook.com group creation! Thefacebook.com—a self-sustaining procrastination device-truly the epitome of Western intellectual culture, no?

Tune in next week for the next installation from my prodigious collection of procrastination devices! Feel free to email me if with your own favs!



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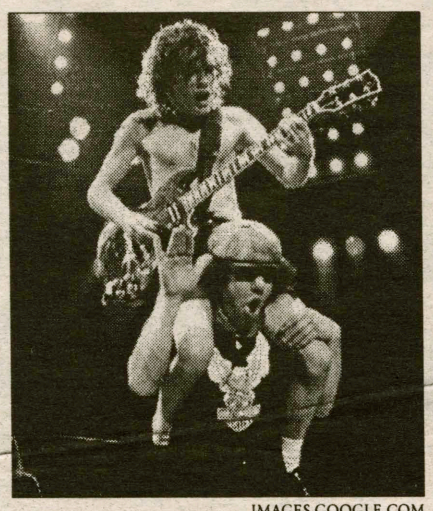
Don't let your parents be cooler than you!

by Keenan Reilly '07
A&E WRITER

A few weeks ago, over break, I came to an unsettling (and in my mind very grim) realization: compared to our parent's generation, we are about as hardcore as year old generic mayonnaise. To fully grasp this comparison, you must understand that mayonnaise is the symbolic representation of all that I loathe, but that's a lesson for another day. For this exercise, you must look past your parents' receding hairlines and addiction to the Weather Channel. Considering our age, I assume most of our parents were in their "coolest" years during something we like to call the Seventies. If you know anything about Rock and Roll you know it reached its peak during either the Nixon or the Carter administrations. The Golden Year of Rock is often debated (1969, 1971, 1974 and 1976 seem to be the most popular; I like 1971) but it is of little importance to the task at hand. Why should Rock and Roll determine generational levels of cool? Rock stars set the precedent of what was and to some extent is hip.

Modern day harems of screaming women and extreme excess in every aspect of their lifestyles are two essential clichés that ring true in any pure rocker's life. To put things in perspective, your mom and possibly your dad, at one point or another, wore skin-tight leather pants and a ripped t-shirt to a Led Zeppelin concert. How many kids our age can say they have done that? You must know it's a fact that if your parents ever attended a Deep Purple, Doors, Zeppelin, Black Sabbath, Jimi Hendrix, Rolling Stones (pre1982), Foghat, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Cream, the Who etc., their life was cooler than yours. The Seventies and its hard rock ignited riots, social reform and, coolest of all, Dionysian orgies. Our parents' mellowest concert would be something along the lines of Canned Heat or an aged fat Elvis show (both of which I would probably give a toe or two to see).

Many Hamiltonians probably went to a Dave Mathews or, lamer yet, some teenie bopper (Nsync, Britney Spears, Backstreet Boys) abomination that couldn't pass for a decent Coke commercial jingle. I thank God my parents set me straight and took me to see the Stones young enough to influence me forever. After all the inner embarrassment you are probably now feeling, you must know there is hope. Yes, we are currently surrounded with the worst resources to reach this Rock and Roll salvation, considering neither VH1 or MTV even play music anymore. The eighties at least had Guns and Roses, Motely Crue and Van Halen; we've got songs literally called "Yeah" winning awards and critics' praise. I am a desperate optimist, but I predict 2005 to be the year Rock gets resurrected.



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For those about to rock, Angus Young and Brian Johnson of AC/DC salute you.

First of all, Hard Rock has returned thanks to Velvet Revolver, and may I say their stage presence and energy alone filled a void that had existed in the industry since 1996 (and that's truly being optimistic). If you don't know; Slash, Matt Sorum and Duff Mckagan of Guns and Roses joined forces with Scott Weiland of Stone Temple Pilots and together have created a sound so mean and virile you can't help but throw your thumb, index finger and pinky, in that gesture some may have forgotten (it's been so long) high into the air with goose bumps and a sense of pride.

Beyond the Velvet crew, this spring and summer are going to be packed with thunderous six string solos considering Audioslave, The Darkness and The Kings of Leon are scheduling tours to coincide with record releases. The most current announcement that the original four members of Motley Crue (Nikki Sixx, Vince Neil, Tommy Lee and Mick Mars) are going to kick start the year off with a US tour! So take a day or two off from Newly-Weds reruns, buy the grittiest used Motorhead t-shirt possible and go see the most notorious rockers on earth (Motley Crue) do their thing live at Madison Square Garden on March 3. To prepare for the mayhem you may want to download: 1. Rocket Queen by Guns and Roses (the live versions are glorious) 2. Ain't Talkin' 'Bout Love by Van Halen 3. Live Wire by Motley Crue (the first song they ever recorded and they almost always start a show with it).

This week's homework assignment in excess is: over the weekend engage in (consensual) sexual intercourse while listening to AC/DC's "Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap" at full blast and on repeat. The constant bass kick can get any rhythmically challenged rocker deep in the motion of things. If you are more advanced in the excess lifestyle, try performing the above while gripping a handle of Jack Daniels and taking pulls without losing stride. Next week's topic: Guitar stances in relation to groupie theory.

Mithat's Gaming Corner Presents: *Hearts of Iron II*

by Chris Takacs '05
A&E COLUMNIST

World War II games are, by no means, in short supply. Standing out among the crowds of *Axis and Allies* and *Medal of Honors* is difficult, but the developers at Paradox have managed to create a gem of a WWII sim with *Hearts of Iron II*. *Hearts*, quite frankly, is the end-all, be-all of WWII strategy games. Any game that attempts to surpass its attention to detail and historical accuracy would either be extremely boring, or practically unplayable. *Hearts* borders on these at times, and it is clear from the design that the game is not for the faint of heart (whoops!), the easily discouraged, those who have no historical interest in WWII, or those who hate to spend hours simply planning a large-scale attack that takes only minutes (in other words, most gamers). This is a game made strictly for WWII enthusiasts, strategy game buffs, and that small group of gamers who will literally play any game.

Watching me slowly attempt a land war in Asia (the first mistake!), a friend commented that hearts is "like RISK on acid." An accurate description, providing acid makes things appear incredibly detailed, slow-moving, and frustrating. And that's what *Hearts* is from the beginning, which isn't necessarily a bad thing. In the first place, few games will ever come close to comparing with *Hearts of Iron II's* attention to historical detail. Being able to choose between building 30 units of PzKpfw.NbFzVI (Arm.-2) or 40 of PzKpfwII (Arm.-1) may seem arbitrary, but the results could be devastating for your army. Similarly, accepting the consequences of the Molotov-Ribbentrop can drastically change how your campaign progresses. Fortunately, a brief but helpful tutorial will show you the operational basics of the game, before throwing you head first into January 1936.

The shining point of the game for me, and I believe also for all the WWII buffs who play the game, is the fact that you can choose to stick to the actual historical decisions the WWII leaders made or you can plot your own course and see what would have happened if, say, Italy, Germany, and Japan had not allied. Your choices will continually affect the enemy AI (which can, at times, be incredibly hard to overcome), and so choosing to draw a path of destruction through Europe will negatively influence your relations with all but your closest allies. Further, you aren't limited to being either Axis or Allies forces. If you want, you could play as Mongolia and try to start a war with Peru. The real action, however, lies in the European and Pacific theaters, and so regardless of the plethora of options, you will probably end up preferring to play as an Axis, Ally, or Comintern power.

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Believe it or not: World War II was more controversial than Susan Rosenberg and Ward Churchill combined!

As a real-time-strategy game, *Hearts* requires you to constantly be on your toes and be aware of what your armies are up to. If you don't give specific orders to your fleets of ships or tank divisions they will likely just sit in a field and drain supplies. This slows down game time considerably- you can't simply plug the game speed at extremely fast and send all your troops towards Berlin. You must constantly update orders to match your evolving combat, supply, and diplomatic situation.

You are given a number of historical starting points to begin your campaign (1936, 37, 38, and 39) and then a wide selection of historical battles and conflicts (the Ardennes offensive, the Spanish civil war, D-Day), which you can play from any perspective. Starting at 1936 as a major power, you can witness (or begin) Germany's rise to power in Europe, America's neutrality until Pearl Harbor, the Normandy invasion and, well, you know the story. Left alone, the AI will play out the actual historical narrative relatively accurately. Historical prompt screens will occasionally pop up and offer you options that the real leaders faced. For example, you can play as Japan and be offered the opportunity to amass your Pacific fleet to bomb Hawaii.

Any general will tell you that battles are fought on the front lines, wars are fought behind the lines, on the supply front. *Hearts* wholeheartedly (there I go again) agrees, and a huge part of the game is centered around the distribution of your nation's precious goods and the development of your industrial base. Ignoring this component of the game is not an option, and, even if you try, you will quickly find your troops experiencing attrition, starving, freezing to death or dying of malaria in a jungle. One of the most frustrating but telling parts of the game is having to keep your overseas troops well supplied by convoy, balancing your distribution of supplies, oil, energy, and industrial goods across your nation.

Again, I never said this was a fast-paced game. Game-time is measured in historical hours. That's right, not years, months, weeks or even days, but hours. On the slowest speed, the game trods along at one historical hour for every few real-life seconds. On the fastest speed, it takes about five real-life seconds for a day to pass. Conceivably, you could play a 1936-1947 campaign (you can only play the game until 1947, at which point it calculates victory points and winners and losers) for, well, over 100 real-life hours.

War is hell.

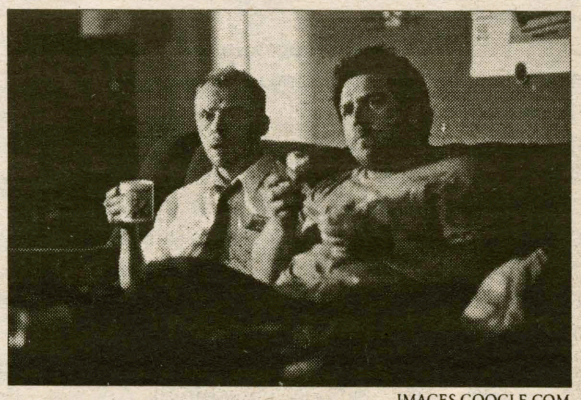
Despite its slow nature, its fierce attention to details that you frankly don't care about, and its total lack of graphical glitz (battle scenes consist of small sprites of tanks and infantry moving towards or away from each other arbitrarily), *Hearts of Iron II* is a magnificent game, but only "if you like that kind of thing."

Hearts of Iron II gets 8.2 Panzer-PzKpfw.NbFzVI(Arm.-2) Divisions out of 10.

Badass Movie Reviews: *Shaun of the Dead*

by Tim Mudie '05
A&E EDITOR

For the last couple years there's been a pretty high demand for big budget zombie movies. As far as those go, at least. This has been great for zombie actors, but it personally didn't do all that much for me. Out of the three recent zombie movies (*28 Days Later, Dawn of the Dead* and *Shaun of the Dead*) only *28 Days Later* interested me. I saw *Dawn of the Dead* (I even reviewed it in this nifty little column), but didn't think that it was as good as *28 Days Later*. I had no plans to see *Shaun of the Dead*, but this week, I did. And I have to say that Britain has managed to surpass America in the zombie-movie industry.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Is it possible that these guys could save the world from hordes of zombies? Yes, it is.

Shaun of the Dead is something of a spoof on zombie movies. The action begins when slacker Shaun and his even bigger slacker friend, Ed, are recovering from a bender after Shaun's girlfriend has dumped him. The outside world has been slowly getting infested by zombies while the friends spent the night in drunken bliss. Once the zombies start attacking them, they realize that something is wrong. Well, sort of. First, when they're confronted with a groaning, stumbling girl in their backyard they laugh, one of them making the comment, "My God, she's so drunk." When she tries to bite them they get the idea. This leads to a basic zombie movie plotline: get everyone you know, get someplace safe. Of course, it happens in hilarious ways.

So you may be asking yourself what's so badass about this movie. Well, it's a comedy so it's not totally badass. Really, I just wanted to review it. The zombie killing is quite badass though. The zombies are incredibly easy to kill, so Shaun and Ed have to smash their way through huge groups several times, beating them hilariously. Shaun actually goes out of his way to hit a zombie with a shovel.

One of the taglines for *Shaun of the Dead* was "A romantic comedy. With zombies." I guess that you could call it that, but it's really neither. Sure, it has aspects of both, but the story is really in the characters. Shaun and Ed are both priceless and the chemistry between them is genuine (they're friends in real life). The dialogue is quick, realistic and yet still very funny. You can tell that the actors really are friends bantering with each other, not just faking it for the camera.

Shaun of the Dead is the sort of movie that simply cannot be encapsulated in a preview. *Super Troopers* was the same thing for me. The trailer simply cannot give you a good idea of what the movie is like. Luckily, *Shaun of the Dead* has gotten some good word of mouth and more and more people are seeing it and loving it. This has been **Badass Movie Reviews**. Next week: *Racing Stripes*

A 24 hour movie experience

by Alex Sweet '05 & Sean Tice '06
A&E CONTRIBUTORS

Let's Keep It Briefcase is a situation comedy revolving around Damascus, a Norwegian bounty hunter, and an unidentifiable heroine. The point was to keep the heroine ambiguous; after all, it's her charming Greek (rough translation "Ward Churchill was here") that really seals the final scene.

Filmically, we sought an avant garde/vaudeville circuit feel by drinking as many beers as possible and drawing storyboards in the snow. After our livers recuperated, we cut the DV tape and tried to run it through a standard film reel, which proved disastrous. We attempted to tape the strips of tape back together, but what resulted was our final cut.

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7 ACAD. AWARD NOMS INCL BEST PICTURE, BEST ACTOR & DIRECTOR CLINT EASTWOOD & BEST ACTRESS HILARY SWANK DTS PG-13
MILLION DOLLAR BABY
●1:10▲3:55-6:40-9:20 STADIUM SEATING
The WEDDING DATE DEBRA MESSING PG-13
●12:55●3:05▲5:10-7:10-9:10
ARE WE THERE YET? ICE CUBE
●12:25●2:30▲4:40-6:55-9:05 DTS PG
HIDE AND SEEK ROBERT DENIRO
●1:00●3:15▲5:20-7:30-9:40 #1 MOVIE DTS R
COACH CARTER ●1:20▲4:10-7:00-9:50 PG-13
3 ACADEMY AWARD NOMS ●2:00▲5:00-8:00
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA PG-13
5 ACAD. AWARD NOMS INCL. BEST PICTURE
SIDEWAYS ●1:50▲4:20-6:50-9:15 R
RACING STRIPES SAT-SUN●12:00 PG
MEET THE FOCKERS ●1:15▲5:35 PG-13
IN GOOD COMPANY ●3:30-7:50 PG-13
ALONE IN THE DARK 10:00 R
W/COLLEGE ID $5 ▲TWILITES NITELY $4.50
●MATINEES SAT-SUN-WED $4.50

Science & Technology

Climate Stewardship Act meets deadlock in Senate

by Rebecca Grusky '06
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY WRITER

The Climate Stewardship Act (CSA), sponsored by Senator John McCain (R-AZ) and Senator Joe Liebermann (D-CT), gained 43 votes in the Senate in 2003. Although they could not bring the CSA to a vote in 2004, McCain is still determined to pass this bipartisan bill. The Climate Stewardship Act would set a cap on carbon emissions and would allow companies to buy and sell carbon pollution credits, boosting the nation's coal industry. This trading system gives companies an incentive to lower their emissions because they can sell their remaining allowances on the open market, thereby reaping higher profits.

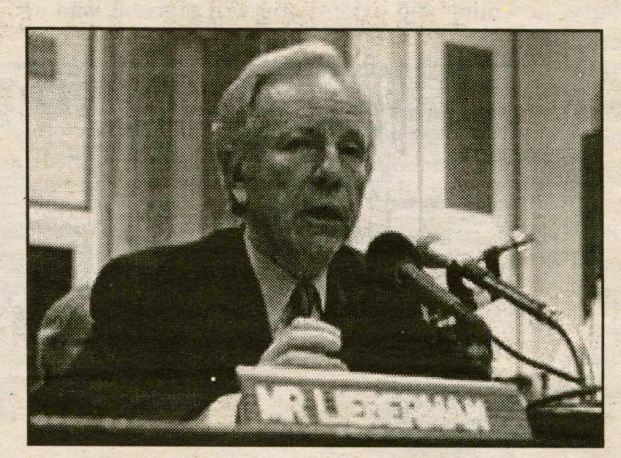
Pollution credits have proven to be a successful system for the reduction of sulfur-dioxide emissions, which is the primary cause of acid rain. The Cap-and-Trade system became part of the Clean Air Act of 1990 under George H.W. Bush, who was convinced by the non-profit organization Environmental Defense that there would be significant economic incentives to reduce sulfur-dioxide emissions.

Carbon dioxide, emitted from the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation, is the primary heat-trapping greenhouse gas that causes global warming. Reducing carbon dioxide emissions would also reduce soot, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, sulfur particulates, dioxins, ozone, mercury and noxious substances.

Many scientists and policymakers see the Climate Stewardship Act as bringing us one step closer to adopting the Kyoto Protocol, the implementation of the Climate Change Treaty. The Kyoto Protocol has currently been adopted by 126 nations; it was signed in 1992 by President George H.W. Bush, but was later rejected by President George W. Bush.

Despite his promise during his first presidential election to cut carbon-dioxide emissions from power plants, President Bush has opposed restrictions on carbon-dioxide emissions since early 2001. The administration claims that the science is uncertain and the cost to the economy of reducing emissions would be too extreme. Instead, Bush proposes the Clear Skies Act, which the National Academy of Sciences said would allow more carbon-dioxide emissions than under the current law.

The Clear Skies Act is controversial, and some policymakers feel that full compliance with the Clean Air Act would be a better option. Some worry that the Clear Skies Act will produce more death and illness than if the government put its resources toward meeting the terms of the Clean Air Act. On the other hand, the Bush Administration and supporters of the bill believe it will be the most efficient way to reduce pollution while creating more jobs. Although the Clear Skies Act plans to reduce sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and mercury emissions from power plants, it does not promise to reduce carbon-dioxide emissions.



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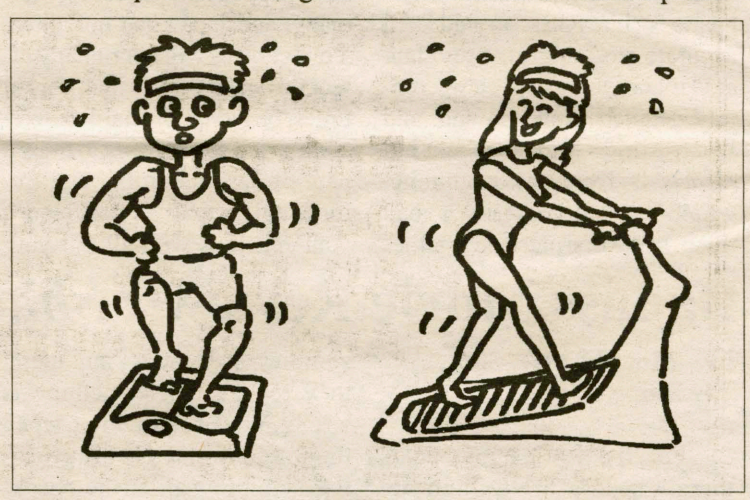
Lieberman proposes the Climate Stewardship Act

Despite the political deadlock, climate change as a result of rising carbon dioxide levels is already present in the U.S. Current Arctic temperatures are particularly troubling because they have risen at twice the rate of temperatures in the rest of the world. The Arctic region is particularly vulnerable to climate changes because it has a relatively short growing season and the climate on its own is highly variable. The 2004 report of the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) observed rapid climate change over the last half century. Due to rising temperatures, there has been a decrease in the extent of sea ice, glaciers and marine animals that depend on sea ice, a reduction of vegetation (such as white spruce), an increase in certain types of fish and a decline in caribou. The changes in these areas are only projected to get worse. Despite the extreme climate changes in the Arctic, a very small number of greenhouse gas emissions actually originate from the region. Although the Arctic region may be far from the US, the warming of the region will raise sea levels throughout the world.

According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, another area of concern is climate change in California, where temperatures are expected to rise significantly throughout this century. With a low-emissions standard, temperatures are predicted to rise approximately four to six degrees Fahrenheit; under a high-emissions scenario, temperatures are expected to rise seven to 10.5 degrees Fahrenheit. In addition, heat waves and extreme temperatures are predicted to become more prominent, especially in major cities. These climate changes are likely to affect California's agricultural products, increase heat-related deaths and reduce snowpack in the Sierra Nevada.

Human-induced warming is clearly having major effects on the environment, although plans for change are hindered by congressional deadlock. Some policymakers feel that carbon-dioxide emissions are currently so high in the US that we would have much difficulty readopting the Kyoto Treaty. However, there are still ways in which to reduce emissions with a more modest plan that has the potential to receive bipartisan support: The Climate Stewardship Act.



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Contaminated stem cells

by Laura Trubiano '07
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY WRITER

Stem cell researchers around the world are facing the possibility that their experiments have been contaminated

ANDREW LEONARD © PHOTO RESEARCHERS INC

An adult human stem cell

by animal cells, which render the cells useless for transplanting into patients.

The contaminant, an animal sugar known to find its way into cultures of ordinary human cells, has been found in a Bush-approved stem cell line. This means the cells cannot be used in therapies and basic lab results from the cells could be invalidated, as researchers cannot tell whether results are due to human biology or the effect of a mouse or animal factor.

Human embryonic stem cells have to be supported by "feeder" layers of mouse cells and nourished by blood serum from calf fetuses, which increases the risk of contamination by mouse or cow viruses. A team led by Ajit Varki at the University of California, San Diego, has shown that one of the Bush stem cell lines is contaminated with a sugar called Neu5Gc from the mouse feeder cells. Neu5gc is present on the surface of most animal cells and differs from the human equivalent by oxygen atom. When human blood serum was added to the cells, they were attacked by the human immune system; Varki believes that the same would be true for the other Bush-approved cell lines.

The news has resulted in more criticism of President Bush's stem cell policy. In 2001, Bush allowed federal funding for stem cell research only on those stem cell lines already in existence, meaning no new embryos can be used to make cell lines. Now, after these findings, it is probable that research on the existing lines could never lead to human therapies.

In 2002, a team led by Ariff Bongso at the National University of Singapore became the first to grow human embryonic stem cells on human "feeder" layers instead of animal feeder layers. Since this breakthrough, researchers have been transferring their colonies to human feeder cells, which may remove the contamination, but there is no way to know for sure until researchers look for the mouse sugar in human stem cells grown that way.

Most experts say that new cell lines are the only reliable answer to this finding. The contamination could affect signaling between cells, interactions with the immune system, and cell growth and differentiation. There is no way of knowing whether pure human cell lines would act in the same way as the contaminated lines.

Exercise boosts your happiness

by Laura Trubiano '07
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY WRITER

Everyone knows that exercise is good for you physically, and many people will tell you regular exercise makes you feel better as well. A new study proves that the mental effects of exercise are more valuable than many people know. The study, led by exercise physiologist Andrea Dunn of the Cooper Institute in Colorado, found that symptoms of mild to moderate depression can be reduced by regular exercise.

People diagnosed with depression have low levels of the chemical, serotonin, which is found in the brain. Serotonin is a neurotransmitter involved in systems that affect mood, hunger, sleep and aggression. Serotonin's activity is the used by anti-depressant drugs such as Prozac, which boost serotonin levels by blocking reuptake at the synapses in the brain and thus keep serotonin active longer. Researchers believe that regular exercise may result in increased serotonin levels, which could make exercise a more natural route for combating depression. Exercise may be a good alternative for people who are reluctant to take drugs, or for pregnant women, who are not encouraged to use these drugs.

In this study, 20 adults diagnosed with depression were separated into groups doing differing amounts of aerobic activity. After 12 weeks, researchers found that those participants who worked out for half an hour three to five times a week reported half the symptoms of depression that they had experienced before the program began.

This study proves that regular exercise can make you feel better physically as well as mentally. So, next time you're feeling stressed out or sad, hit the gym.

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Super Bowl Scouting Report

by Andrew Dassori '07
SPORTS EDITOR

In a week where the Hamilton College campus appeared to be the next place President Bush would announce the presence of weaponsof mass destruction, it seems hard to believe that the biggest sporting event of the year is right around the corner. With a campus wrought by turmoil and controversy, we can only hope that the big game will help in bringing us past this debacle, and give us yet another excuse to postpone our attempts at completing our grand accumulation of schoolwork.

Sunday's match-up looks to be one for the decades, as two similarly respected franchises from similar East coast cities with similarly dedicated fans will square off in Jacksonville in a much-anticipated game that many people predicted long before the start of the regular season. The Patriots come in as defending champions on the verge of establishing a modern-day dynasty, yet the Eagles are not without playoff experience or motivation. This marks the first time in four consecutive attempts that the team has broken through the NFC championship and into the big game, and the Eagles are not looking to leave empty handed.

Though the result of this game will most likely be determined by the schemes and counterschemes developed by arguably the two best coaching staffs in the league, the match-ups on paper are also remarkably interesting. Here is how these two incredibly talented groups compare:

Patriots Offense

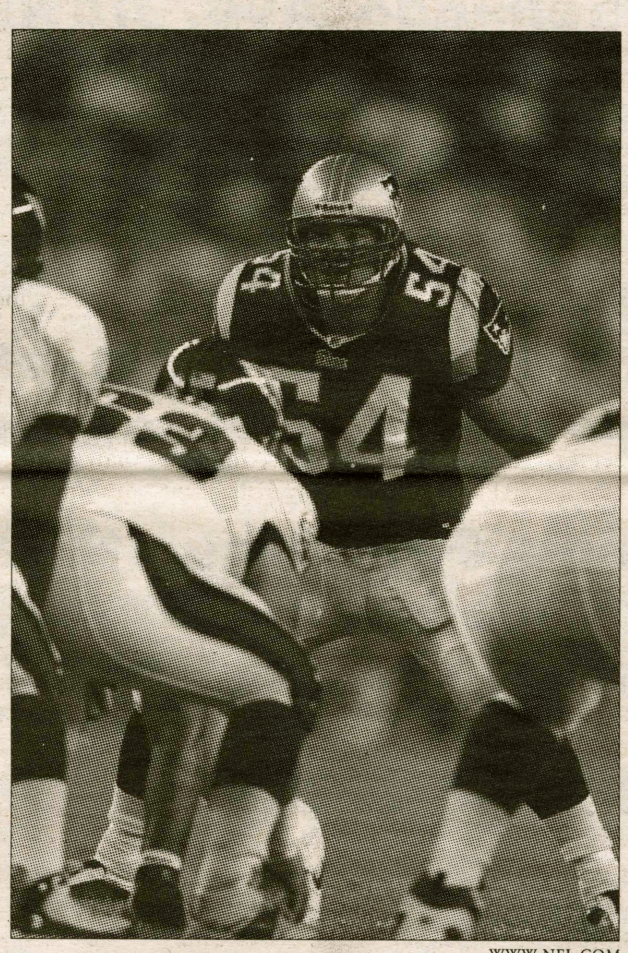
The Patriots offense finished the year 4th in scoring after gaining a new dimension with the offseason pickup of Corey Dillon. Under the tutelage of offensive coordinator Charlie Weiss, the offense has been unpredictable, moving from heavy run to heavy pass in their weekly adjustments. Given recent offensive results, it will be hard for the Eagles to stop this unit in Sunday's contest.

Quarterbacks: Tom Brady continues to prove the doubters wrong with his unmatched consistency and poise game in and game out. Drawing comparisons to Joe Montana, Brady has led his team to two Super Bowls in the past three years and is a perfect 8-0 in the playoffs. **Advantage Eagles.**

Running Backs: In his first season with the Patriots, Corey Dillon set the franchise single-season rushing record with 1,635 yards. Dillon also scored 13 touchdowns (12 rushing, 1 receiving), and has given the Patriots the weapon on the ground that they lacked ever since the departure of Curtis Martin. Kevin Faulk gives the Pats an excellent change of pace option on third downs. Patrick Pass plays a limited role at fullback, but fits into the Patriots system nicely due to his versatility. **Advantage Patriots**.

Wide Receivers/Tight End: With Troy Brown's productivity decreasing, the Patriots have kept behind their mask of unpredictability in this group in that any receiver can step up on any week. David Patten, David Givens, Deion Branch, and Bethel Johnson have all shown that they can be dangerous receivers, which gives the Patriots a multi-faceted attack. The Patriots are not quite as strong at tight end, though Christian Fauria and Daniel Graham have done a solid job. **Advantage Eagles.**

Offensive Line: The departure of Damien Woody left the Patriots without a single big-name offensive lineman, but with their scrappy group of relative no-names, this has proven to be less of a problem than expected. The play of tackles Matt Light and Brandon Gorin will be key, as they matchup against Jevon Kearse and the rest of Philadelphia's talented defensive line. **Advantage Eagles.**



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Tedy Bruschi (54) and the Patriots will take on the Eagles at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Patriots Defense

The Patriots bring one of the league's stingiest, most experienced defenses to the game this weekend after shutting down their opponents (especially opposing quarterbacks) throughout this year's playoffs. Coming off wins in which they gave up only three points to one of the most potent offenses in NFL history, that of the Indianapolis Colts, and 27 to the 15-1 Steelers, the Patriots seem ready for anything. Though injuries have plagued the defensive unit, this has given opportunity for young players to gain experience long before Superbowl Sunday. In Romeo Crennell's last hurrah in New England, the defense has a tough task at hand in controlling McNabb, possibly T.O., and the rest of the Philadelphia offense.

Defensive Line: Playing without Richard Seymour for the past two games, the Patriots defensive line has not looked the same. Fortunately for the team, Seymour will be suited up on Sunday, leading the base of New England's complex and versatile defensive unit. Youth is seen in Ty Warren, Jarvis Green, combines with the veteran experience of Keith Traylor to give the Patriots a versatile group. **Advantage Eagles.**

Linebackers: The linebackers are the heart and soul of the New England defense, and can wreak havoc both blitzing and dropping into coverage. Tedy Bruschi leads the crew that, like the defensive line, can give many different looks due to its interchangeability. **Advantage Patriots.**

Defensive Backs: The defensive backfield has been the most injury-plagued unit on the field for the Patriots, playing much of the season with converted wide receiver/utility man Troy Brown at nickel back. Without Ty Law and Tyrone Poole, the Patriots will use an undrafted rookie free agent in Randall Gay at one corner, with Asante Samuel on the other side. While the only big name within this group is Rodney Harrison, his popularity is deserved given the magnitude of the collisions he creates. After all the talk, the defensive backfield should relish the opportunity to shutdown the Eagles receivers with their play, not their mouths. **Advantage Eagles.**

Eagles Offense

The Eagles were not far behind the Patriots this year in offensive production, ranking 8th in the league in scoring. Like the Patriots, the Eagles picked up a key free agent in the offseason who has transformed not only the playbook, but also the team's attitude. Terrell Owens has injected of confidence into the Eagles offense, and depending on his physical condition, may be the key to the Eagles victory on Sunday.

Quarterbacks: Donovan McNabb played like a man possessed this year, as he led the Eagles to a 12-4 record, then carried the team on his back to win their dreaded NFC Championship game. McNabb has always been mobile, but this year the Syracuse graduate truly came into his own, combining scrambling ability with an accurate arm that has placed him, to Rush Limbaugh's disbelief, among the elite quarterbacks in the NFL. **Advantage Eagles.**

Running Backs: In his first full year as a starter, Brian Westbrook has drawn comparisons to Marshall Faulk in his prime due to his incredible versatility which has allowed offensive coordinator Brad Childress to open up the offense. This is sure to create matchup problems for the Patriots who will have trouble covering a split out Westbrook with a linebacker. Westbrook topped 700 yards both rushing and receiving, and will be a major concern for the Pats defense come Sunday. Dorsey Levens, who looks to get most of the goal-line carries, is Westbrook's primary backup. **Advantage Patriots.**

Wide Receiver/Tight End: This category is perhaps the biggest question mark for the Eagles as they head into the big game. Not only is Terrell Owens coming into the game against the advice of the doctor who performed surgery on his broken right leg just weeks ago, but the team also lost Pro Bowl tight end Chad Lewis who had two touchdown catches against the Falcons. Freddie Mitchell has stepped up in T.O.'s absence, but his mouth has gotten him into trouble as of late, giving the Patriots the "billboard material" that every team coach looks for in the process of preparation. If T.O. is not back at full strength, Todd Pinkston and second-year tight end L.J. Smith will have to have career days. **Advantage Eagles.**

Offensive Line: The Eagles offensive line has been led all season by perennial pro-bowl left tackle John Runyan and center Hank Fraley. These two players make many of the calls at the line, and have indubitably been studying hard this past week given the scores of sets and variations within the Patriots 3-4 defense. **Advantage Eagles.**

Eagles Defense

The Eagles defense is commonly overlooked, but one has to remember that an offense doesn't win 12 games on its own. In recent weeks, the Eagles defense has stepped up to play above its previous level. Free agent pickup Jevon Kearse has helped to create a feared pass rush, and it will be interesting to see what notoriously creative defensive coordinator Jim Johnson has in store for Tom Brady and company.

Defensive Line: Corey Simon, Derrick Burgess, and Jevon Kearse have disrupted the passer all season, and one shouldn't expect this to stop anytime soon. With the speed, strength, and drive to dominate the line of scrimmage, this group of players will be perhaps the hardest to stop for the Patriots. Kearse constantly draws a double team in passing situations, which generally leaves the underrated Burgess open coming off the opposite edge. Simon can clog the middle with the best of them, which will make running the ball a chore for the Patriots. **Advantage Eagles.**

Linebackers: The Eagles feature an anchor at middle linebacker in Jeremiah Trotter who could be a difference maker for their team. Trotter, signed for the veteran minimum in the offseason, has been a menace on the field. While fellow linebackers Dhani Jones and Mark Simoneau are solid runstoppers, it will be Trotter vs. Dillon as the Eagles try to stop New England's potent ground game. **Advantage Patriots.**

Defensive Backs: This unit features three pro-bowlers in Lito Sheppard, Michael Lewis, and Brian Dawkins. Though they will have their hands full with the Patriots receivers, the Eagles defensive backfield has the experience and playmaking ability to match up well against their opponents. **Advantage Eagles.**

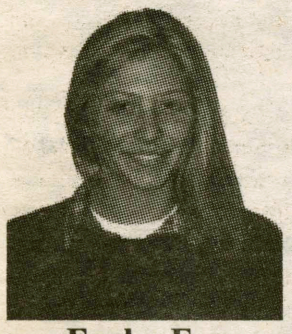
Prediction: Patriots 20, Eagles 17

The UNDERDOGS

Eagles make their first SuperBowl appearance in 24 years

by Liz Pinnie '08
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

On a frostbitten afternoon, they came, streaming out of alley ways, marching towards a common goal. The glass speckled streets shimmered in the sunlight, and in a leafless tree, as a pigeon cried out. They flooded the gates, stormed the stairs, and climbed miles of cement until they broke out into the smoggy air, the wan winter sun caressing their stubbly faces. Suddenly, a small voice was heard. It was their time, and they erupted into a torrent of voices that washed over the city. Together as one they stood, every Vinny Boombatz, Joe Six Pack, and Larry Hard Hat. And as Rocky graced the screen and began dancing through the streets, the Vinnys threw their hands up in the air, crossing themselves and shouting a prayer. Each Joe Six Pack shoved a bite of a sausage sandwich in their mouths and in turn sprayed their neighbors with it in a resounding "AAAHHHH". And the Larry Hard Hats leapt in swan form, the sunlight bouncing off their naked stomachs. Together they chanted "E-A-G-L-E-S EAGLES!!!"



Eagles Fan

This is Philly, in all of its ridiculous glory, and I love it.
So my friends, for a moment, forget about Churchill, forget about papers, and start thinking about the one truly important event of the week: the Super Bowl. This is my plea for all of you non-Patriot fans who are wandering lost, lonely, wishing you had a team to cheer for. Cheer for us. Cheer for the Eagles. Cheer for the Underdogs.

We have the passion, the heart, to win this game. We need it. Philadelphia hasn't won a pro Championship since the 76ers's in 1983. For a city of sports fanatics, this is a long time to wait. It's been 24 years since the Eagles have made an appearance in the SuperBowl. Lastly, for three years in a row we have made it to the NFC Championship Game, and for three years in a row we have lost. (And I know, I know, Red Sox fans... you've waited millenia for your chance, but you've got it now, so let's let some other team have the inspirational story, shall we?) I don't know if you can feel our heartache, but if you've ever seen the face of a 300-pound man bawling like a two year old into his friends shoulder, you might be able to understand the pain. If nothing else, cheer for the Eagles to avoid the annual spike in domestic violence that coincides with the ill-fated end of the Eagles season. Year after year we experience this, families picking up the pieces and the city rebuilding itself, and we never lose our zeal for the sport. Because, let's face it- in Philly, we love seeing our boys beat the crap out of other sissy cities.

"This is my plea for all of you non-Patriot fans who are wandering lost, lonely, wishing you had a team to cheer for. Cheer for us. Cheer for the Eagles. Cheer for the Underdogs."

That's part of the glory of the Eagles fan...that gritty intense obsession that led us to throw snowballs at Santa Claus and causes us to knock the teeth out of anyone wearing the other team's jersey. It's the same feeling that gets a full stadium standing the entire game in 17 degree weather with 26 mph winds (like at the NFC Championship this year), and that has Eagles fans outnumbering Patriots fans six to one in Jacksonville. Yet this Eagles spirit encompasses much more than that. Our fans and players have a swagger and a sense of pride in the team, and it's evident through players like Freddie Mitchell, who is quoted as saying, "I'm a special player. Special players make special plays. I just wanna thank my hands for being so good." Our boys dance on the field and strut about during and after our games, and our fans have the balls to start up a rallying Eagles cheer anywhere in the country. Boys and girls, don't deny it- we he are way more fun then Mr. Tom "Butt-Chin" Brady who had the following to say about the Super Bowl: "For me, this week is not for fun; it's for playing a game." Go make another Gap commercial, Tommy.

I ask you this- did you cry for Rudy? Did you wish the tortoise would beat the hare? Did you root for for Rocky as he beat up raw meat? I know you did. So this Sunday, cheer for us, the Eagles, and pretend you have a real cheese steak in your hands.

Women's basketball defeats Middlebury and Vassar

Continentals ranked fifth in the Liberty League

by Paul Kibbe '05
SPORTS WRITER

The Women's basketball team had three games in the past week, two league games and one non-league game. The team was coming off their biggest win of the season when they beat William Smith, who at the time was in sole possession of first in the Liberty League.

On January 28 the Continentals hit the road to take on RPI who was tied with Hamilton for fourth in the league with a record of 3-2. It was a big game for Hamilton because with a win the team could have taken the fourth spot for themselves, which would put them in the playoff picture. However, luck was not on Hamilton's side and the team could not overcome RPI's scoring, losing the game 59-50 on Friday night. The loss dropped the Continental's record to 3-3 in league play.

The Continentals did not seem ready to play when they got off the bus in Troy on Friday night to take on RPI. Although RPI only shot 33% from the floor in the first half they managed to take a 31-19 lead into the half because of Hamilton's dismal shooting percentage of 15%, making only four of 26 first half shots. Hamilton came out for the second half looking like the team that had beaten William Smith just three days prior.

Hamilton out-shot RPI in the second half 40% to 30% and outscored the Redbirds 31-28. This surge was not enough to compensate for the Continentals poor first half play as RPI went on to win the game 59-50. In the loss, Hamilton got strong play Tricia Czeski '05 who has paced the Continentals all season long. Czeski finished with 14 points and six rebounds.

Allie Massaro '07 continued to help the Continentals off the bench dropping 11 points and grabbing six rebounds. Melissa Steppe '08 also had 11 points from the point guard position, and Pumla Sathula '08 continued to be Hamilton's presence underneath, leading the Continentals with nine rebounds.

The following afternoon Hamilton took on Vassar College, one of the weakest teams in the Liberty League. The Continentals took every advantage of this and dominated the women of Vassar, never letting them in the game and going on to an easy 48-33 win.

On Tuesday the Continentals traveled to Middlebury, VT to take on the Panthers in Hamilton's first non-league game in over two weeks. Hamilton had beaten the NESCAC school during the past two seasons and did not want this year to be any different. Although Middlebury put up a fight, the Continentals were just too strong for the Panthers and went on to win 63-52. The win improved Hamilton's record to 10-7 overall and 4-3 in the Liberty League.

Hamilton went into Vassar with the bitter taste in their mouths from the loss the night before and it showed with their back-breaking performance. The first half resembled the one from the previous game, except this time in Hamilton's favor. Hamilton took a 31-18 lead into the half against Vassar and never slowed down in the second half. Although the Continental women only scored 17 points in the second half, their dominating defense secured the lead and held the Brewers to only 15 second half points. The 33 total points by Vassar was the lowest offensive output against Hamilton since the 2001-02 season.

Hamilton's defense forced 22 turnovers and collected 13 steals while allowing the Brewers to shoot only 24% from the floor. Sathula led the Continentals in both scoring and rebounds, falling just one rebound shy of a double-double finishing with 15 and nine. Erin Daugherty '06 had nine points and four rebounds and fellow guard Czeski, finished with seven points, five rebounds and five steals.

"RPI was a tough loss for us because we came out slow in the beginning. We got out-muscled underneath and dug ourselves into a hole that we just couldn't get out of," commented Daugherty, "It was nice to come out against Vassar and play the way we know we can play. We played a solid game from start to finish and it felt good to get a victory before we went home."

Sathula was selected co-rookie of the week in the Liberty League after finishing the week averaging almost a double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds. At week's end, Sathula was leading the league in rebounds per game, with an average of 9.2 rebounds per outing.

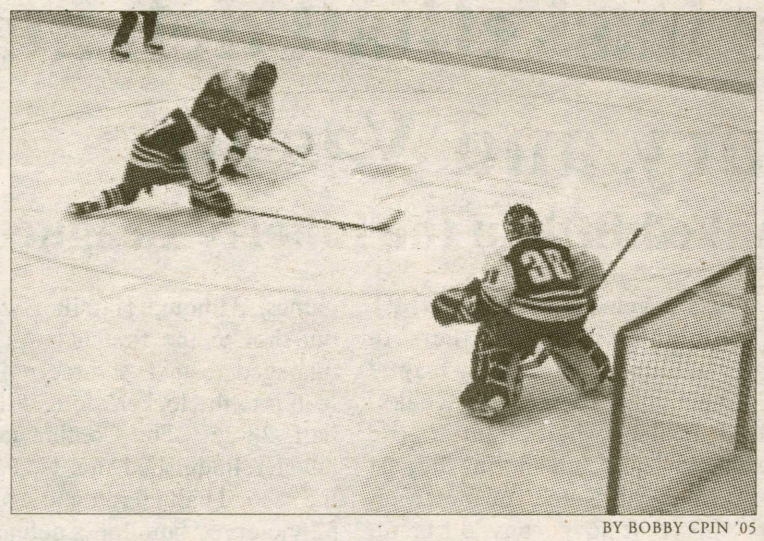
Hamilton made the long trip to Middlebury coming off the win against Vassar. They were slated to take on a Panther team who had lost four of its last six games. Although Hamilton was out-shot in the first half, they managed to take a three point lead into the locker room at the half, 28-25. The Continentals never relinquished this lead in the second half en route to a 63-52 victory. Hamilton's defense once again was a key factor in the victory forcing the Panthers to commit 29 turnovers. The win improved Hamilton's record to 10-7 while dropping the Panthers to 9-10 on the season. Czeski led all scorers led all with 18 points. Jessica Pisegna '06, a starter all season, finally had her breakout game, finishing with a career high 11 points. Sathula finished with nine points and nine boards, while Daugherty drained three threes and finished with nine points and six rebounds.

Many teams, including the Continentals are still in the playoff picture going into the second half of the season. Union is once again atop the standings with a record of 7-1 in the league. Union went 3-0 last week; with dominate wins against Clarkson and Skidmore and a two point win, 58-56, against St. Lawrence. That same St. Lawrence team is tied with William Smith and RPI for second in the league, all sharing a 5-2 record. Hamilton holds the fifth spot and is currently on the outside looking in with a record of 4-3 in league play. The top four teams make the postseason and Hamilton will most likely need to beat at least two of the four teams currently in front of them to have a shot at the postseason.

"It's nice to have a two game winning streak going into the second half of our league season," said Daugherty. "We need to beat Skidmore on Friday and it would be great to get a big win on Saturday against Union who is holding the number one spot now. We played a close game with them last time and it would really be great for the team to come away with a victory this time. Winning both games this weekend would put us in one of the top four spots which would put us right back in the playoff race."

Hamilton kicks off the second half of the season on the road taking on Skidmore on Friday night who is sixth in the league with a 2-6 record. The following day the Continentals will play a very important game against Union. In the two teams first match-up Hamilton suffered a heart-breaking defeat at home, 56-54.

"Winning both games this weekend would put us in one of the top four spots, which would put us right back in the playoff race."
— Erin Daugherty '06



BY BOBBY CPIN '05

The Continentals returned from the Granite State with two losses.

BY NICK LUND '05

The Women's hockey team will travel to Maine to take on the Colby White Mules in a double-header weekend.

Men's hockey will face two NESCAC rivals

by Nick Rockwell '08
SPORTS WRITER

Unfortunately, the Men's hockey team up on the Hill has not warmed with the weather, yet the Continentals are still within striking distance of the NESCACleaders. This past weekend Hamilton traveled to New England College and Saint Anselm, returning with two losses. Currently the Buff and Blue is 7th in the league but only seven points behind 1st place Trinity, with some big league games coming up in the next few weekends.

Last Friday at New England College, the team got off to a solid start, going up 1-0 on a goal late in the first period from sophomore Chris Clarkson '07. The Pilgrims countered quickly with a goal to tie it, only twenty-nine seconds before the end of the period. In the second, the Pilgrim offense came out in full force, tallying another goal and peppering senior tri-captain Rob MacNeil '05. MacNeil was up to the task and ended up turning away forty-one shots in the first two periods. New England scored again in the third but the Continentals responded with a power-play goal by Jeff Vatour '06 who is second on the team in goals and has been playing well recently, having scored five times in as many games. With the score 3-2, Hamilton pulled the goalie but to no avail.

On Saturday the team faced a tough squad in Saint Anselm, which holds a record of 13-4-1. Leading scorer and tri-captain Gus Katsuras '06 led the attack for Hamilton, scoring his 14th goal of the season in the first period. However, the Hawks notched four unanswered goals, all but sealing the deal. Chris Clarkson '07 continued to have the hot hand, scoring again on a shorthanded goal to cut the lead to 4-2 but it was not enough. The Hawks got an empty-net goal to make the final 5-2. In the losing cause, sophomore defensemen John Gordon '07 recorded two assists and MacNeil put forth another solid effort between the pipes.

Despite two road losses this past weekend the team remains upbeat coming into a huge weekend at home against NESCAC rivals Williams and Middlebury. Sage Rink is sure to be a madhouse this weekend, as the 7-8-3 Continentals test their skills against a solid Williams squad ranked 6th in the league, and the perennial powerhouse from Vermont, currently tied for second. However, for further proof that the NESCAC is an exciting league to play in with many competitive schools, look no further than the standings and to Middlebury, which has an uncharacteristic three league losses so far this season.

Head Coach Phil Grady is positive and excited about the next few weeks, noting that the Continentals can "control their own destiny," with six league games on tap that will decide the team's postseason fate. Hamilton Men's hockey has qualified for the NESCAC playoffs in each of the last twelve years but it is certainly not an easy task. Coach Grady also cites the dominant play of his goaltenders Gabe Tash '06 and MacNeil, saying that they "have given us the opportunity to win all year long," adding that the team "needs to score more than two times a game in this league." Playing with consistent intensity for all three periods and getting production from the entire team will be the key for the Continentals if they hope to secure a home playoff game this year. This weekend promises to be one of the best for hockey on the Hill so come out to the Sage and support the Buff and Blue!

Women's hockey falls to Bowdoin Polar Bears

by Matt Bradley '07
SPORTS WRITER

The nationally ranked Bowdoin College Polar Bears took over Sage Rink this past weekend, blanking the Continentals in both games. Hamilton could not compete offensively, losing the games 0-2 and 0-5 respectively. Thanks to Hamilton's tough defense, however, the squad managed to keep Bowdoin from running up the scores in both games.

The first match-up of the two game series was last Friday, January 28 at Hamilton's Sage Rink. Hamilton's inability to convert on power plays was the team's biggest enemy, failing to produce on all three opportunities. Bowdoin however, scored their first of two goals on a power play, late in the first period. The first period ended with a 1-0 Bowdoin lead, giving Hamilton the potential to easily tie the game. Caitlin "The Brick Wall" Connelly '07 was extremely consistent in the goal, blocking eight of the nine shots she faced in the first. Her solid play kept Hamilton competitive all game. Unfortunately however, the Continentals could not create an offensive spark.

The second period was the most offensively aggressive period for both teams. Thanks to strong defense from both squads however, the score remained stagnant. Connelly blocked all thirteen shots that Bowdoin fired her way. Hamilton produced six shots on goal in the second, doubling their attempts from the first period. Regardless, the Continentals still trailed by one at the beginning of the third period.

Hamilton still had a great opportunity to tie the game in the final period. 9:20 into the third however, Bowdoin scored their second goal, putting the nail in the coffin. The Continentals played extremely well as the clock continued, but it was not enough to convert any goals. Hamilton dropped its first game to Bowdoin 0-2. Notably however, Connelly finished the game with an outstanding 30 saves, keeping Hamilton in the game for all three periods. Ultimately, it was the Continentals' inability to convert on power plays that led to the team's loss.

Hamilton and Bowdoin faced off once again on Saturday, January 29. Hamilton hoped to come out stronger offensively, but it was not the case. Once again, the Continentals' failure to capitalize on power plays ultimately decided their fate. The squad went 0-6 on power plays, while Bowdoin managed to score on one of its chances.

The game began well for the Continentals, out-shooting the Polar Bears 10-6 in the first period. Unfortunately for Hamilton however, Bowdoin converted two of its six shots into goals. Bowdoin picked up its first goal just under four minutes into the first, while their second goal came with six minutes remaining in the period. Bowdoin's early 2-0 advantage gave the Polar Bears the upper hand for the remainder of the game. Hamilton was unable to score any goals, while Bowdoin knocked in three more goals, two in the second and one in the third. Hamilton stayed relatively consistent with its shots on net, but as has been the case in the past, the squad failed to convert on its attempts. Bowdoin College picked up its tenth straight win with the 5-0 victory over Hamilton. This past weekend was the first time in nine years that the program has suffered back-to-back shutouts. The Continentals dropped to 5-6-1 in the NESCAC while the Polar Bears improved to 10-1-0 in the conference. "This past weekend, as a team, we played some really good hockey," said Connelly. "Though we didn't win, I think we're in a good place to come out strong and take two big wins from Colby."

Hamilton is playing an extremely important conference game this Friday at Colby College. Colby is currently ranked sixth in the NESCAC, winning both games is crucial for the struggling Hamilton squad. Captain Zoë Baldwin '06 added, "We have gotten better these past few weeks, and I think we are in a good spot going up to Maine."

STAT OF THE WEEK

96

Gus Katsuras '06 has scored 96 points during his career at Hamilton. This season he has contributed 29 points, averaging 1.61 points per game. This weekend's games versus Williams and Middlebury could give him the chance to break the 100 point mark.

Swimming dominates Union on Senior Day

Record-breaking weekend for track & field; Liberty League honors ten Continentals

by Katie Childs '08
SPORTS EDITOR

The Continentals defeated Union College 181-114 on Saturday, January 29 at Bristol Pool. **Todd Johnson '08**, **Tae Chung '05**, **Andrew Fink '05**, and **Ryan Connor '05** placed first in the medley relay with a time of 1:37.81 minutes. Fink and Chung were joined by **Andrew Saunders '05** and **Aran Lawrence '05** to win the freestyle relay in a time of 1:26.49 on Senior Day. Johnson also captured first in the 100 and 200 backstroke. **Ben Delia '05** placed first in the 500 free and 400 individual medley. Other victories included **Tim Reed '06** taking first place in the 1,650 free, **Steve Morris '06** winning the 200 breaststroke, Fink capturing the 200 free, Lawrence winning the 50 free, and Chung placing first the 100 breast stroke.

Mike Salmon '06 stretched his win streak to 12 with first place finishes in the 1-meter and 3-meter diving events.

HAMILTON ROUNDUP

WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

Hamilton beat Union College 154-146 during a close Senior Day meet on Saturday, January 29. **Nicole Knapp '05**, **Naomi Krakower '07**, **Eileen Starrett '07**, and **Ashley DeMaio-Zacharek '08** captured first place in the 200-yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:03.74 minutes. **Brittany Achin '05** placed first in the 100 and 200 backstroke events. **Katherine Hankowski '05** captured first in the 200 free and **Bevin Kenny '07** finished first in the 100 backstroke during a close race, which she won by only .19 seconds.

MEN'S TRACK & FIELD

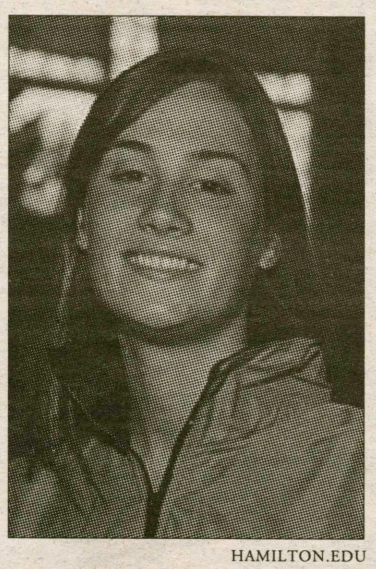
Kyle Graham '06 qualified for the New York State Collegiate Track and Field Conference Championships on January 29 at the St. Lawrence University Invitational. Graham finished third in the pole vault, clearing a height of 4.19 meters (13-feet 9-inches), and setting a new school record. He also held the previous school record, which he set on January 31, 2004.

Olamide Harrison '05 (55-meter dash) and **Claudius Zorokong '08** (long jump) both qualified for the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championships, which will take place on March 4-5.

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Jenny Orbaker '07 set a school record in high jump on January 29 at St. Lawrence University. She placed first after clearing a height of 1.58 meters (5-feet 2.25-inches); the previous record was set on February 25, 1984. The jump qualified Orbaker for the ECAC Championships.

Jessica DeMichiel '08 set a school record in the pole vault; she captured second place after clearing the 2.74 meters (8-feet 11.75-inches). Orbaker broke the previous record held by **Amanda Salisburg '08**.



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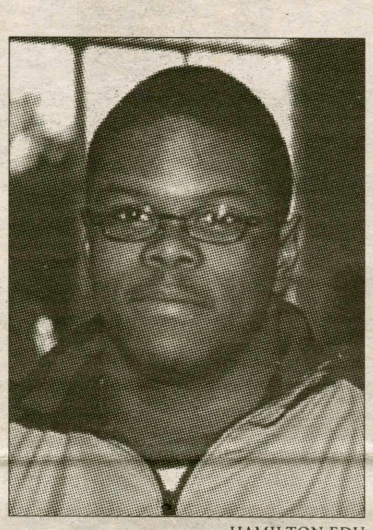
Brittany Achin '05



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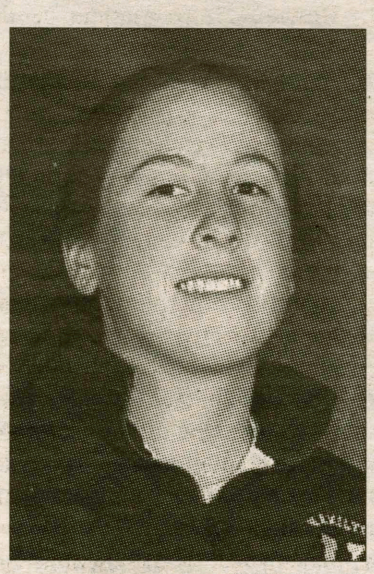
Todd Johnson '08



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Lindsay Walsh '07

MEN'S SQUASH

Hamilton defeated Haverford College 8-1 on January 29, but fell to Navy 9-0. The 21st ranked Continentals are now 6-6 overall and will travel to Vassar College this weekend.

WOMEN'S SQUASH

A 19th ranked Hamilton squash team defeated Franklin & Marshall College, Wellesley College, and Haverford College during a weekend road trip on January 29-30.

Lindsay Walsh '07 went undefeated all weekend, bringing her record this season to 12-3, a team best. In addition, **Sarah Coleman '08**, **Eileen Fisher '07**, and **Natalie Schwerin '08** won all three of their matches. The team is currently 8-8 overall.

ECAC HONORS

The Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) honored three Hamilton athletes this week: **Olamide Harrison '05** (Division III Track Athlete of the Week), **Jenny Orbacker '07** (Division III Field Athlete of the Week), and **Mike Salmon '06** (Division III Diver of the Week).

LIBERTY LEAGUE HONORS

Ten Continentals were honored by the Liberty League this week: **Pumla Sathula '08** (Women's Basketball Co-Rookie of the Week); **Mike Salmon '06** (Men's Swimming Diver of the Week); **Todd Johnson '08** (Men's Swimming Co-Rookie of the Week); **Brittany Achin '05** (Women's Swimming Co-Swimmer of the Week); **Emily Clinkhammer '06** (Women's Swimming Diver of the Week); **Olamide Harrison '05** (Men's Track Co-Track Performer of the Week); **Kyle Graham '06** (Men's Track and Field Co-Field Performer of the Week); **Claudius Zorokong '08** (Men's Track and Field Co-Rookie of the Week); **Jenny Orbaker '07** (Women's Track and Field Co-Field Performer of the Week); and **Jessica DeMichiel '08** (Women's Track and Field Rookie of the Week).

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Hamilton is ranked number nine in a preseason poll released by Lacrosse Magazine. Middlebury College's lacrosse team has the top spot in the Division III poll, but Hamilton clinched the ninth spot just ahead of Union. The Continentals went 6-2 in Liberty League play last season. The Women's lacrosse team will kick off their season at Amherst on March 14.

MEN'S FOOTBALL

Wide receiver **Sean Thorsen '05** was honored by the Central New York Chapter of the National Football Foundation and the College Hall of Fame on January 30. Thorsen, a public polity major, was among seven athletes honored for their commitment to academics, athletics, and leadership.

Men's basketball tied with Hobart for first place in Liberty League

*from **Basketball**, page 28*

points and seven rebounds off the bench, and Phil Valenti '06 chipped in with eleven points and six rebounds. Hamilton's defense limited Vassar to 19% shooting from the field in the second half, showing that this team can win if and only if they play great defense as a unit.

Anderson was especially pleased with the second half defense. "We had Mike Evans, Giorgi Chavleishvili, Phil Valenti, Staunton Peck ['06], and John Fleming ['07] in there for about eight minutes in the second half and they played great defense as a group. Vassar only scored about six points in the first fifteen minutes of the second half, so it made it easier to make an offense run."

The Hamilton win coupled with the Hobart loss to RPI puts the teams even at 5-2 in the league. RPI, Skidmore and Union are all two games back at 3-2. Hamilton will play two more road games this weekend before returning home for the final five games, all Liberty League contests. Friday night the Continentals will play at Skidmore and Saturday they will travel to Union. Hamilton already beat both of these teams at home this year, so each will be looking to exact revenge at their home courts.

"If you want to win the league you need a statement weekend at some point," added Anderson. "A weekend where people say, 'Wow, now that's the best team in the league.' We think we can do that on the road this weekend, and if we do it, we'll be in a good position to host the conference tournament."

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BY NICK LUND '05

The Men's basketball team is tied for first place with Hobart in the Liberty League; both teams head into the weekend with 5-2 records.

ROAD WARRIORS

By Michael Proia '05
SENIOR SPORTS EDITOR

The Men's basketball team split a pair of road games last weekend, but remained in a tie for first place in the Liberty League thanks to some help from Rensselaer Polytechinc Institute (RPI).

The Continentals dropped a tight game, giving up the lead late in Friday night's game against RPI, but rallied back Saturday with a blowout win over Vassar College. Saturday afternoon RPI took on Hobart at home and pulled off a second straight upset, keeping Hobart and Hamilton tied for the top spot in the league.

Hamilton jumped out early, a rarity this season, and lead by nine points at halftime, 33-24 on Friday, January 28 at RPI. But the Red Hawks rallied back in front of the home crowd and buried nearly every outside shot in the second half, including all five three point attempts and eleven of twelve free throws.

"If you want to win the league you need a statement weekend at some point. We think we can do that on the road this weekend, and if we do it, we'll be in a good position to host the conference tournament."

--Head Coach Tobin Anderson

Hamilton lead for the first fifteen minutes of the second half until RPI went ahead 53-52, but Mike Evans '05 quickly responded with a three, grabbing the lead back. The Continentals still lead by two with a minute to play, until RPI sank a three with 44 seconds remaining, giving the Red Hawks a one point lead. After a missed three by last weekend's hero Nick Jones '07, RPI added two free throws to ice the victory, 62-59. Tsakane Ngobeni '07 broke out with a big game, scoring ten points and grabbing ten rebounds as well. Jones finished with 13 points, and Evans added 11. Hamilton attempted only eight free throws as a team, compared to twenty by the more aggressive Red Hawks.

"You don't expect to get the calls on the road in close games, said head coach Tobin Anderson. "We just weren't aggressive enough in the final minutes. But we've won some games that we probably should have lost and we've lost some games we should have won. That tends to even out. If you want to beat a good team on the road, you have to be ten points better than they are."

Hamilton cruised to a victory over Vassar on Saturday, January 29, though the final score was not indicative of the tight play in the first half. Hamilton allowed Vassar to hang in the game by continuing to send The Brewers to the line. Vassar connected on twelve of fifteen free throw attempts in the first half and entered the break trailing 39-37.

Vassar stormed out of halftime and scored the first four points of the second half, but from that point on it was all Hamilton. The Continentals changed to a bigger line up, showing the versatility of players such as Jones and Ngobeni, and pounded the ball inside to the big men. An intentional foul call on Vassar turned a 5 point Hamilton lead into a 20 point lead in a matter of minutes as the Continentals ran off on a 17-2 run to put the game away with a final score of 77-54.

"You have to protect your teammates and players," commented Anderson. "I thought it was a pretty flagrant foul, and I got heated. Hopefully we can use that as a spark to get going. We are starting to play really good basketball, and maybe that can fuel us."

Ngobeni lead the way for Hamilton with sixteen points and nine rebounds. Giorgi Chavleishvili '08 added twelve

*see **Basketball**, page 27*

THIS WEEKEND

11-6
Overall
5-3
Liberty League

SKIDMORE

The Thoroughbreds are on a three game win streak after beating St. Lawrence, Clarkson, and Union. Ranked third in the Liberty League, they rely on senior guard Dana Martin '05, who scored 33 points versus Union on Tuesday. Hamilton beat Union 76-73 at home.

10-9
Overall
4-4
Liberty League

UNION

The Dutchmen are ranked fifth in the Liberty League. Hamilton edged out Union 68-66 at home on January 21. Union has a slim home court advantage: they are 1-2 in Liberty League play at home and have an average game attendance of 91 people.